FAMILY REUNION ENDS IN TRAGEDY, PG 3

The world's largest global newspaper
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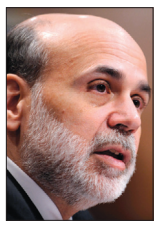
TORONTO • MONDAY, MARCH 16, 2009
metronews.ca

Celebrity pg 27

Simpson's words of advice to abused women

U.S. bank czar shows optimism

ECONOMY The United States' recession "probably" will end this year if the government succeeds in bolstering the banking system, U.S. Federal Reserve Chairman Ben Bernanke said yesterday in a rare television interview.


Ben Bernanke

In carefully hedged remarks in a taped interview with CBS' 60 Minutes, Bernanke seemed to express a bit more optimism that this could be done.

Still, Bernanke stressed that the prospects for the recession ending this year and a recovery taking root next year hinge on a difficult task: Getting banks to lend more freely again and getting the financial markets to work more normally.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports pg 14

Raps snap 7-game slide

Riding the **Recession**

Looking for ways to save money and ride out the economic storm? Now through the end of March, Metro will share advice on how to cut down on expenses and navigate your way through the recession.

• Comment
Wise words for rough times from Anne Hines, pg 11

• Tomorrow
Entertainment – How musicians and music labels are dealing with the economy.

• This week
Food – Some tips for brown-bagging lunches and local meals for a steal.

Parade

Leapin' leprechauns

LUCAS OLENIUK/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Members of the McGinley Academy dance their way down Yonge Street yesterday during the 22nd annual Toronto St. Patrick's Day Parade. Thousands donned shamrocks, leprechaun hats and other Irish paraphernalia to take in the annual parade. Story, page 4.

Studio seeks to stage a comeback

Optimistic news for local film and television industry

FilmPort Studios, the newest and largest film and television production space in Toronto, is booked nearly to capacity, a sign 2009 will be a much better year for the battered industry in the city.

Ken Ferguson, president of Toronto Film Studios, said six of the studio's seven state-of-the-art sound stages are booked, with only the site's 4,270-square-metre "mega-stage" lying fallow.

"Right now, all of our stages, other than the mega-stage, are occupied. There's no place to park. So this is good news for us," Ferguson said.

FilmPort opened last year at a truly dismal time, with the Canadian dollar relatively close to par with the U.S. dollar and producers there taking advantage of enhanced tax credits being offered by many U.S. jurisdictions, particularly New York.

35,000

More than 35,000 Torontonians are estimated to work in the local film industry.

But in 2009, New York's tax credit program has run out of cash and the Canadian dollar has dipped significantly against its U.S. counterpart, making Toronto and other Canadian locales good value for U.S. film and television production, Ferguson said.

FilmPort has attracted a number of pilots being produced for the major U.S. television networks — work that went to New York in 2008 — as well as a couple feature films, including Atom Egoyan's Chloe, starring Julianne Moore and Liam Neeson, and Love Child, starring Donald Sutherland.

Ferguson is also hopeful major U.S. studios will soon be green-lighting some big money feature film projects, despite an ongoing dispute with the U.S.-based Screen Actors Guild.

"We're definitely looking at 2009 being a better year in film and television production than it was in 2008. Notwithstanding the horrible recession that's going on in the world, this is one sector in Toronto that's going to be better off," Ferguson added.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

On the go with Metro

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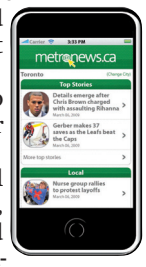
Metro readers already have fast access to the news on the subway, train or bus — now they can find Metro whenever and wherever on their cellphone and Twitter.

Beginning today, you can read the latest news online through Metro Mobile's three new websites: mobile.metronews.ca for any web-enabled cellphone; iphone.metronews.ca, built specifically for iPhones; and viigo.metronews.ca, a site where readers can download Metro content customized for the Viigo application for BlackBerry.



Access all the stories, columns and blogs we feature on our website (metronews.ca), search through our archives, and on the iPhone, share any of our content with your friends through email, Facebook or Twitter.

Twitter, the much talked about website, is equal parts social networking, blogging tool and information feed, in which each post — at a maximum of 140 characters — is called a tweet.

You can also follow Metro Toronto's Twitter at twitter.com/metrotoronto for the latest news and exclusive contests.

We're shaping Metro Mobile and our Metro tweets to provide you with the best in breaking news, anywhere you are.

"We're excited by the idea of all these emerging platforms," said Jodi Brown, Metro's interactive director. "This is just the beginning. We're always looking at new platforms to make sure we're everywhere you are."

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G3 Wave 5-Door shown with UE1 and PW8**

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Vibe GT model shown**

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Program excludes other replacement parts, fluids, and any "Additional Required Services" as outlined in the Owner's Manual that may be identified during the inspection of the vehicle. See Dealer for details. ‡0% purchase financing available for 72 months available on 2009 Pontiac G5 XFE Coupe or Sedan 1SP. Financing available on approved GMAC credit only. Down payment and/or trade may be required. Monthly payment and cost of borrowing will vary depending on amount borrowed and down payment/trade. Example: $10,000 at 0% for 72 months, the monthly payment is $138.89. Cost of borrowing is $0, total obligation is $10,000. Offers are unconditionally interest-free. Freight and taxes are not included for bi-weekly payment. 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Visit gmstudentbonus.ca for more details. iPod® is a registered trademark of Apple Inc. ◊US government star ratings are part of the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program. For more information on safety ratings, go to www.safercar.gov. 2009 Pontiac Vibe received both a 5-star Rating for the driver and front passenger in the Frontal Crash Test and for Front Seat Occupants in the Side-Impact Crash Test. 2009 Pontiac G3 Wave received both a 5-star Rating for the driver and front passenger in the Frontal Crash Test. ♦Applies to 2009 G5 XFE (2AJ37/69). Based on Natural Resources Canada's 2009 Energuide data and GM vehicle segmentation for the Compact Car – Regular segment. ¥®OnStar services require vehicle electrical system (including battery); wireless service and GPS satellite signals to be available and operating for features to function properly. Subscription Service Agreement required. Call 1-888-4ONSTAR (1-888-466-7827) or visit onstar.ca for OnStar's Terms and Conditions, Privacy Statement and details and system limitations. **Pontiac G3 Wave 5-door with UE1 and PW8 shown, MSRP $14,710. Pontiac Vibe GT model shown, $26,070.

Cops baffled by stabbing
Police are trying to figure out exactly what happened after a woman walked into a Toronto hospital with a stab wound yesterday afternoon. The woman told staff at North York General hospital that she had been jogging in Mississauga when she bumped into someone who somehow inflicted the wound. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Local

Ontario to promote self at 2010 Games

Ontario's Tourism Ministry in Toronto is seeking proposals to design, develop and manage the province's presence at the Vancouver 2010 Winter Olympics and Paralympics. The request for proposals says the event presents a unique opportunity to promote the province to a global audience, calling it "the trade show of trade shows." Ontario's pavilion will be located in downtown Vancouver and is intended to serve as a promotional and marketing tool. THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Tomorrow's Metro

The J Spot

Josey Vogels wonders why it's still taboo to talk about menstruation

metronews.ca
What's online today.

Video Protesters prepare to give George W. Bush a frosty reception when he arrives in Calgary this week at **metronews.ca/canada**
Video Investors enter the week cautiously optimistic after the recent market rally at **metronews.ca/canada**
Blogs The It's Called Football show checks in with MLS teams from L.A. to Chicago
Video Thirty arrested after Montreal's annual protest against police brutality turns violent at **metronews.ca/canada**
Comment Can a permanent resident travel abroad without a residency card in case of emergency at **metronews.ca/immigration**

Lotteries

Friday, March 13
Lotto Super 7: 6, 15, 18, 24, 35, 36 & 46. Bonus 17.
Saturday, March 14
Lotto 6/49: 4, 11, 13, 16, 41 & 45. Bonus 35.
Sunday, March 15
Ontario Pick 3: 1 6 4; **Ontario Pick 4** : 5 8 5 3
Encore: 4820195;
Daily Keno: 8, 13, 17, 18, 19, 24, 26, 27, 31, 32, 35, 38, 44, 48, 54, 55, 58, 61, 66, 69.
These results are not official.

Family tragedy in Muskoka

Husband struggles with his inability to save wife, 12-year-old daughter

A happy family reunion in central Ontario's picturesque cottage country was marred by tragedy yesterday, as two bodies were pulled from a Muskoka lake and a distraught man tried to come to grips with how he helplessly watched his wife and 12-year-old daughter slip into the frigid waters.

Police divers recovered the bodies of Carolyn Bray, 46, and Joeline Robinson, 12, from Lake Rosseau in Muskoka Lakes Township, about a two and a half-hour drive north of Toronto.

Tony Robinson

On Saturday, Tony Robinson was riding a utility vehicle across the lake's frozen surface, following behind his wife, their daughter, the girl's 11-year-old cousin and a family dog, who were in a Kawasaki Mule, which resembles a large golf cart.

Their vehicle hit a pressure crack in the ice and submerged.

The 11-year-old girl, who wasn't wearing a seatbelt, and the dog managed to escape. But Bray and her daughter were belted into the front seat of the vehicle and couldn't free themselves in time.

Tony Robinson attempted to save his wife and child but his efforts were in vain.

"Tony jumped in and tried to get them, but he couldn't," the man's father, Harold Robinson, said in an interview Sunday.

Members of the Robinson family had been gathering for a family reunion in Windermere, a tiny village with about 200 full-time residents, including the elder Robinson and his son.

"We were just getting together at that time for the weekend," said Harold Robinson.

Investigators blamed the accident on unpredictable ice conditions, something that's been particularly problematic this year because of dramatic freeze and thaw cycles, said provincial police Sgt. Mike Tennent.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Charity **Military vets run for rehab hospital**

CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Master Cpl. Jody Mitic, right, sits along beside his girlfriend Alanna and his six-month-old daughter Aylah, and fellow amputee Cpl. Michael Barnwell, left, as he prepares for the Achilles 5k run in support St. John's Rehab Hospital in Toronto yesterday. Mitic lost both his legs on Jan. 11, 2007 after stepping on a landmine while with the 1st battalion Royal Canadian Regiment in Afghanistan.

Man stabbed outside of pub

MISSISSAUGA A 29-year-old man is dead after he was chased down and fatally stabbed early yesterday morning outside a Mississauga pub full of patrons.

Jermaine Marlon Scott, a Mississauga resident, was at the Fox and Fiddle Restaurant and Tavern on Dundas Street West, near Winston Churchill Boulevard, about 2:30 a.m. yesterday when he quarrelled with a group of men, Peel police said.

The altercation moved to the parking lot, where Scott tried to flee, but he was chased down and stabbed. He stumbled to a nearby taxi, which drove just over a kilometre east along Dundas before the cabbie realized his passenger was bleeding and called police.

The victim was taken to Credit Valley hospital with life-threatening injuries. He was transferred to a Toronto-area hospital, where he died from his wounds.

Police have no suspects.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

City looks to add 1,300 new jobs

HIRING As GTA businesses lay off staff by the thousands, the City of Toronto is proposing a hiring spurt of 1,300 new staffers including a dedicated BlackBerry specialist, an animal nutrition research assistant and new tax collectors.

Many of the new hires are to fill front line jobs, including:

- Some 222 new positions at the Toronto Transit Commission to expand service
- 156 welfare caseworkers to handle an expected 90,000 cases on average each month, up from 77,000 in 2008
- Another 271 workers to design and oversee new capital works projects such as the Spadina subway extension, the Transit City streetcar network plus rehabilitation of major roads and bridges.

"Those positions I understand and they don't cause me a great deal of concern," Coun. Peter Milczyn said.

But Milczyn, a former budget committee member who doesn't support Mayor David Miller's $8.7 billion spending plan for 2009, said there are several hundred new hires — particularly in internal administrative functions — that he finds questionable.

The city's budget chair, Coun. Shelley Carroll, defended the plan and said the impact on taxpayers isn't as great as it would appear. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Where the jobs are

- Toronto wants to add 1,300 people to the payroll this year. Here's what some of them would do:
- 5 permanent inspectors for grow-op crackdown.
- A tech job to set up an electronic tracking system for crackdown on illegal signs.
- One lawyer for human rights tribunal hearings.
- 10 new prosecutors and four legal assistants to staff the six new courtrooms.
- Eight permanent positions in to gear up for 2010 municipal election.

Slip and fall lawsuits costing city more than $30M

Lawsuits springing from slip and fall incidents on icy city sidewalks between 2003 and 2008 are estimated to cost the city more than $30 million after all the bills are paid. According to the city's website, 2008 alone should cost the city close to $5.5 million. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Milk bags to bed mats

Used plastic turned into products to help the Third World

Dianne Scott gets choked up when she talks about the frightened and abused children in Third World countries who are finding comfort in Canadian-made teddy bears.

But they're not the soft, plush animals that children normally snuggle up with under a warm blanket.

These bears have been painstakingly made in Ontario and crocheted using cut-up strips of plastic milk bags.

"A missionary or a doctor will bring them into a hospital for children who are getting AIDS shots or have been mistreated," the 69-year-old Scott said in a recent interview.

"They are only used for therapy or where you have children who are hiding and you can't get them out of the bush."

> **"In Haiti, if they don't have the mats, they use banana leaves and (they cause) paper cuts in their skin."**
> Dianne Scott

The bears are offered to children who have been subjected to atrocities by soldiers in countries like the Congo.

Scott, who lives in Dunnville, Ont., says the bears are a small part of a recyclable plastic milk bag project she started in 2006.

The longtime activist is now co-ordinating more than 70 groups that crochet the bags into sleeping mats which are then shipped out to poorer countries.

That doesn't include the dozens of groups of people who collect and sort the bags.

"I've had environmentalists approach me, I've had school groups, scouts, guides, summer camps, you name it," Scott said. "It just boggles my mind."

The washable mats repel bugs and provide an alternative to sleeping on the damp and bare ground.

They are made from the plastic of the outer milk bag which holds the three smaller clear bags inside.

"In Haiti, if they don't have the mats, they use banana leaves and (they cause) paper cuts in their skin," she added.

The plastic bags are also crocheted into tote bags that can be used for carrying groceries or as school bags.

Scott said she got the idea from a Lutheran church group in Windsor, which was one of the first to start crocheting the mats in 2002.

"We have right now over 800 mats," she said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

PETER RAKOBOWCHUK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Rachelle George-Bernard, a teacher from Montreal, crochets a sleeping mat using strips of plastic from milk bags. The school has joined more than 70 groups in Ontario that have been crocheting the mats for shipment to Third World countries.

No plans for delisting: Caplan

HEALTH Delisting can't be ruled out during tough economic times, but there are no plans right now to clamp down on rising health-care costs by removing services currently covered by the province, said Health Minister David Caplan.

Ontario is expected to rack up an $18-billion deficit by next April, and experts say growth in annual government spending will have to slow to only two to three per cent if the province is to balance the books once the economy turns around.

David Caplan

When Ontario was grappling with a $5.6-billion deficit left by the former Conservative government in 2004, the Liberals delivered a budget that introduced a health premium of up to $900 per person and delisted eye exams, chiropractic services and physiotherapy.

Now that the province is in the throes of a major economic slump, there are fears that the government may delist more services to get ballooning health-care costs under control.

Caplan said delisting is "not an area I look to first," but acknowledged that all spending will be reviewed.

"We want to take a look at what we're doing and how we can do it better," Caplan said in a recent interview with The Canadian Press.

"If it doesn't make sense, we're going to stop doing it. If it makes sense, we're going to do more of it. And I think that's a fair kind of mindset to have."

While Caplan said he doesn't know the details of the March 26 budget, he added that he has not asked Finance Minister Dwight Duncan to cut services in order to curb spending.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

City streets go green for St. Patrick's Parade

IRISH The leaves are still weeks away.

But there was plenty of green to be seen under Toronto's spring-like sunshine yesterday as thousands donned shamrocks, leprechaun hats and other Irish paraphernalia to take in the city's 22nd annual St. Patrick's Parade.

Yet many of the onlookers lining downtown streets showed very little Celtic background in their faces.

"There is still a big Irish community in Toronto," said parade chair Jack Ferns.

"But like the city we live in, we welcome all nationalities. Walk the streets of this parade and you can see people from everywhere."

There was the Bailey family from Chile, for instance, whose roots go back to Jamaica.

"But look at the name. Bailey, like Baileys Irish Cream. There's got to be some Irish in there somewhere," Angelica Bailey said.

Flutist Jackie Bucago came down to support fellow members of her Philippine Heritage Band, one of several non-Irish ensembles to march in the 300-person parade.

"We like to celebrate that we are Irish, and we want everyone who wants to, to celebrate with us," Ferns said, admitting that a pint or two of Guinness might be part of post parade celebrating for many.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Natural gas costs will drop for some

RATES Most customers of Enbridge and Union Gas will see their annual rates drop following approval Friday by Ontario's Energy Board. The board has adjusted rates charged by the utilities effective April 1.

The amount customers will save depends on the amount of natural gas used, type of consumer and their location. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

PAPER PLANES A trio of Canadian students took top honours at the Red Bull Paper Wings National Final held Saturday in Mississauga. The winners of the paper airplane contest will represent Canada at the world final to be held in Salzburg, Austria on May 1-2.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Iraq from	4.9 ¢	Syria	18.9 ¢
Israel	2.9 ¢	U.A.E	19.9 ¢

Latin America

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Haiti	16.9 ¢	Bolivia from	6.9 ¢
Honduras	15.9 ¢	Chile	2.9 ¢
Panama from	3.9 ¢	Colombia from	3.9 ¢
Uruguay	7.9 ¢	Dominican Rep.	6.9 ¢
Venezuela	2.9 ¢	Mexico. from	2.9 ¢

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Small plane crashes in N.B.

Two students taking flight training, and their instructor, escaped with what were described as minor injuries after their small plane crashed north of the New Brunswick capital Saturday. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Canada

Drinking linked to prostate cancer

Researchers from Canada, the U.S. and Australia, reviewing 35 studies on the relationship between drinking levels and prostate cancer, found that heavier alcohol users were more likely to develop the cancer. The overall study found that heavier drinkers — 14 or more drinks a week — are about 20 per cent more likely to develop prostate cancer than abstainers or light drinkers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Military funding to create civilian jobs

ANNOUNCEMENT The federal government will spend about $41 million at three military installations in Alberta to prepare the Canadian Forces for future missions and create civilian jobs, one part of about $400 million in such spending across the country.

The biggest of the three Alberta projects will see new training quarters built at the Edmonton Garrison, home to the largest army base in Western Canada. THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

CHOPPER CRASH One body has been recovered from the wreck of a downed helicopter off the coast of Newfoundland and there could be at least 13 more in the submerged fuselage, officials with the Transportation Safety Board said yesterday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Economy falling fast

The United States entered the recession first, but Canada's economy is falling faster now.

And if current trends continue, economists say, Prime Minister Stephen Harper and Finance Minister Jim Flaherty may rue their bold prognostications last week that Canada will exit the slump first and strongest.

Friday's employment and trade numbers paint a picture of an economy, if not literally in free-fall, certainly tumbling at an alarming rate with monthly job losses greater in proportion that those in the United States and as great as any Canada has seen since the Great Depression

Trade figures released late last week did not flatter Canada.

While Canada's trade deficit grew to $993 million in January and exports fell nine per cent, in the U.S. the trade deficit narrowed more than expected to $36 billion US from $39.9 billion US the prior month.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Job losses

- Canada lost 129,000 jobs in January and 82,600 in February — a total that, when population sizes are factored in, would translate into a loss or more than two million jobs stateside.
- By comparison, the U.S. lost about 1.3 million in the same time frame.

DAVE CHIDLEY/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Prime Minister Stephen Harper stands in front of construction trades students at Fanshawe College in London, Ont., as he makes an announcement on initiatives to assist workers.

Arrest 'Dubya' during Calgary visit, activist says

VISIT George W. Bush, who left office with one of the lowest popularity ratings in U.S. history, will officially kick off his unofficial post-presidential image rehabilitation tour with a speech in Calgary tomorrow.

But some protesters who plan to be on hand at the city's convention centre say "Dubya" doesn't deserve a soapbox — he should be in handcuffs.

"It's a war criminal being invited to Canada by a municipal representative body, to come and have a chat," said Toby Pollett, who argues Bush should be arrested at the border over the alleged torture of prisoners in U.S. military camps.

"It's ludicrous, really, when you look at it."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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More stingrays dead at zoo

Two more stingrays have died at the Calgary Zoo and officials are blaming it on a shipping problem. Forty-one of the animals died about a year ago soon after the opening of an interactive exhibit where people could pet them. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Privacy watchdog lauds decision

LICENSING Saskatchewan's decision to put the brakes on high-tech driver's licences shows their benefits don't outweigh the invasion of people's privacy, according to one of Canada's top privacy watchdogs.

Chantal Bernier, assistant privacy commissioner of Canada, is applauding the province's decision to back away from the enhanced licences until legislation addresses concerns about how personal information is used and how vulnerable it is to hackers.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

News in brief

ENERGY The recession appears to be having little impact on a bid by Bruce Power Ltd. to bring nuclear reactors to Alberta and Saskatchewan. The company's CEO says atomic power projects may be able to sidestep economic turmoil.

RELEASE The parents of Laurie Archer, a Canadian nurse who was kidnapped in Sudan's Darfur region rejoiced Saturday upon learning she was released in good health.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Protests rock Montreal

At least 21 arrested in march against police brutality

Several hundred protesters took to the streets of Montreal yesterday and began fanning out in an attempt to destabilize police officers who were trying to keep track of the roving demonstrators.

GRAHAM HUGHES/THE CANADIAN PRESS

A protester confronts Montreal police officers during an anti-police butality demonstration in Montreal yesterday. Several hundred took to the streets and began fanning out in an attempt to destabilize police officers who were trying to keep track of the roving demonstrators.

At least 21 people were arrested in the march against police brutality.

Police spokesman Ian Lafreniere said many of them were nabbed because they were carrying sticks or stones.

One police officer was slightly injured.

Police said some of the protesters were tossing fireworks.

Television footage showed some protesters throwing rocks at businesses, including hotels.

Demonstrators could also be seen clutching their faces because of tear gas released by police.

Hundreds of officers, some on horseback, were trying to follow the protesters, many of whom wore masks.

The annual event has turned violent in recent years, with widespread vandalism leading to numerous arrests.

There were fears this year's demonstration could be worse because it was the first since police fatally shot 18-year-old Fredy Villanueva last August. Organizers said before the protest they did not want violence but that they could not control everyone. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sponsor threats worry officials

VANCOUVER 2010 Games

REPORT Possible threats against sponsors of next year's Vancouver Olympics have federal security agents wringing their hands over "extremist elements," a newly released intelligence report reveals.

The report by the government's threat assessment centre cites vandalism of a corporate backer's premises, theft of the Games flag, and skirmishes between protesters and police.

The Royal Bank of Canada, a key Games sponsor, "has been named specifically in anarchist and anti-Olympic Internet postings," notes the analysis, 2010 Vancouver Winter Olympics: Terrorist Threat to Vancouver Area Facilities.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Britain holds its first divorce fair
Hundreds of newly single people are attending an event billed as Britain's first divorce fair. The Starting Over Show in the English seaside resort of Brighton yesterday says it aims to help people "bounce back" from breakups. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World

Cheney blasts Obama policies

Former U.S. vice-president Dick Cheney said yesterday that President Barack Obama's overturning of Bush administration terrorism-fighting initiatives are making Americans less safe. In noting the sixth anniversary of the U.S. invasion of Iraq, Cheney said nearly all the Republican administration's goals there had been met. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bomb kills four U.S. soldiers

AFGHANISTAN A roadside bomb in eastern Afghanistan killed four American troops yesterday, as bombings and clashes elsewhere in the country killed 14 other people, officials said.

A U.S. statement indicated the troops were based in Jalalabad.

French

- On Saturday, a French soldier and five Afghan troops were killed during a clash with militants in Kapisa province.

In southern Afghanistan, the centre of the Taliban insurgency, a roadside bomb hit a convoy carrying the mayor of Kandahar city yesterday, killing a civilian and wounding two others. The mayor survived the blast.

Separately, a suicide bomber on foot in the capital of Kabul killed two Afghan civilians. The bomber had been targeting a NATO patrol.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'Prelude to a revolution'

Pakistan's Sharif defies house arrest to lead protest rally

Pakistan's opposition leader defied house arrest yesterday to lead anti-government protests that briefly turned violent before becoming a jubilant show of force against the country's pro-western president.

Opposition leader Nawaz Sharif called the mass rally a "prelude to a revolution."

The power struggle between the former prime minister and President Asif Ali Zardari threatens to paralyze the government.

Hundreds of police surrounded Sharif's residence in Lahore, carrying an order for his house arrest, party spokesman Pervaiz Rasheed said. But Sharif, who denounced the order as illegal, later left the house in a convoy of vehicles and headed into town.

Riot police had earlier fought running battles with stone-throwing protesters, turning the downtown into a battle zone littered with rocks and clouded with tear gas and smoke. A mob smashed windows of buses parked along the route of Sharif's convoy. But by evening police pulled back, and thousands of flag-waving supporters and cheering lawyers turned out to cheer Sharif, a local favourite.

"People have responded very overwhelmingly to the call of the hour, and I am thankful to the nation," Sharif told Geo television by phone from his car. "This is a prelude to a revolution."

The gathering in Lahore was the biggest yet in the buildup to plans for a mass sit-in in front of parliament in the capital today.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

K.M. CHAUDARY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Pakistani demonstrators burn a police bus during clashes in Lahore, Pakistan, yesterday.

Street bulbs eyed for U.S. grow-op

DONATE A Billings man has asked the Montana Department of Transportation if he can have several light bulbs that were recently taken down from a Missoula bridge so he can use them to grow marijuana for medical patients. A crew recently replaced the lights with cheaper fluorescent bulbs.

A spokesperson said the department probably won't donate the lights but will put them to good use. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

15 drown after canoe capsizes

BURKINA FASO An overloaded canoe capsized on a reservoir in Burkina Faso, killing at least 15 women and children Saturday. Villagers were crossing the reservoir to attend a funeral, a radio report said, blaming overcrowding on the boat.

Small wooden canoes are a common means of transport in Africa, and are frequently overloaded.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Tourists killed in Yemen suicide bombing

Yemeni security officials say four South Korean tourists have died in a suicide bombing in southern Yemen. They say the tourists were travelling in a convoy in the province of Hadramout. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Final push to free soldier

Prime Minister Ehud Olmert gave his two top negotiators until yesterday to win the release of an Israeli soldier captured by Palestinians as part of a final push to strike a deal with Hamas before he steps down.

Olmert said he sent Shin Bet security service chief, Yuval Diskin, and veteran prisoner-swap negotiator Ofer Dekel to Cairo over the weekend to make "an additional effort" in Egyptian-mediated talks with the radical Hamas movement, which has been holding Sgt. Gilad Schalit since June 2006.

In Cairo, Hamas spokesman Fawzi Barhoum said there had been no new developments, and he considered Olmert's statement, and the arrival of the negotiators, to be bargaining tactics. "We have not received anything new," he said. "We will not change our position."

Hamas is seeking the freedom of hundreds of Palestinian prisoners held by Israel, including dozens involved in deadly attacks on Israelis, in exchange for Schalit.

Olmert, who is leaving office under the shadow of fraud investigations and wide criticism for his handling of the flawed 2006 war in Lebanon, is eager to announce Schalit's release before he hands over to prime minister-designate Benjamin Netanyahu.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Israeli demand last stumbling block?

- Local media reports said the last stumbling block was an Israeli demand that some of the prisoners slated for release be deported to the Gaza Strip or elsewhere after they are freed. Israel fears that they would carry out new attacks if they are permitted to return to their homes in the West Bank.

Consumers still want to read news, survey finds

MEDIA The state of journalism is bleak, but there's little indication that consumers are losing interest in news, says the Project for Excellence in Journalism in its sixth annual State of the News Media survey released yesterday.

The New York Times and Washington Post have bigger audiences than ever, when online readership is taken into account, said Tom Rosenstiel, project director. Traffic to the top 50 online news sites has risen by 27 per cent.

"This is not an industry that is dying." Tom Rosenstiel

"This is not an industry that is dying," Rosenstiel said. "This is an industry that is in disorientation."

Newspapers have failed to figure out how to make their websites profitable, Rosenstiel said.

"The news audience is out there and is in some way growing," he said. "If the industry cannot find a way to monetize that, it may be that individual journalists and others will." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

AKRON BEACON JOURNAL, KAREN SCHIELY/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

David Conn holds a postcard last week that was mailed in 1962 to the previous holder of his post office box in Hudson, Ohio.

Picture postcard delivered 47 years after being mailed

MAIL A woman's postcard bearing greetings from Montana has finally arrived in northeastern Ohio — 47 years later.

Insurance agent Dave Conn opened his post office box in Hudson last week and found the mailing sent from Helena, Mont., in 1962. It was sent to Marion White, the previous renter of the box, who died in 1988.

The writer signed the postcard "Fran" and mentioned having "had a marvellous time in Montana."

After asking around, Conn says he determined the card must have come from White's well-travelled friend Frances Murphey, a longtime reporter at the Akron Beacon Journal newspaper who died in 1998 at age 75.

U.S. Postal Service spokesman Victor Dubina says the postcard may have been stuck in equipment or lost behind a mail chute. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Prelate defends abortion

VATICAN An influential prelate said Brazilian doctors didn't deserve excommunication for aborting the twin fetuses of a nine-year-old child who was allegedly raped by her stepfather because the doctors were saving her life.

The statement by Archbishop Rino Fisichella in the Vatican newspaper yesterday was highly unusual because church law mandates automatic excommunication for abortion.

Fisichella, who heads the Vatican's Pontifical Academy for Life, also upheld the church's ban on abortion and any implications of his criticism of excommunicating the doctors and the girl's mother weren't clear.

Fisichella argued for a sense of "mercy" in such cases and respect for the Catholic doctors' wrenching decision, and strongly criticized fellow churchmen who singled out the doctors and mother for public condemnation. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Economy sound, Obama aide says

REVERSAL One of U.S. President Barack Obama's economic advisers said yesterday that the economy is fundamentally sound, a striking reversal from the Democrat's campaign rhetoric.

Economic adviser Christina Romer was asked during an appearance on NBC's Meet the Press if the fundamentals of the economy were sound. "Of course they are sound," she replied.

"The fundamentals are sound in the sense that the American workers are sound, we have a good capital stock, we have good technology," she said. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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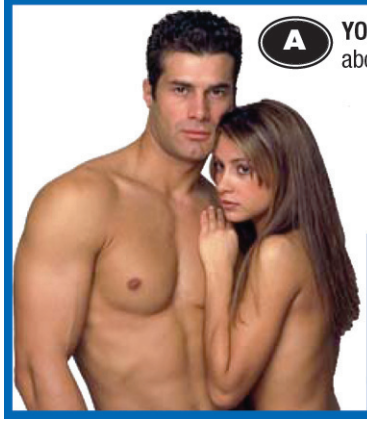

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Comment & Views

Comment

Hope in times of trouble

HineSight

Anne Hines

metronews.ca/hinesight

This column concludes my four part humour series on the economic crisis. Not that there isn't more to say about it, but when I realized I can no longer afford my cable TV package, the recession just stopped being as funny as I'd hoped.

So today, I leave you with some words of encouragement.

When it comes to any challenging life issue, we need to ask ourselves, "What's the worst that could happen?"

The answer is always this: "The earth could burst into a huge flaming fireball and we could all die horribly."

Now ask: "Is the current financial downturn likely to cause that?" Of course not. It will only feel like it. There, doesn't it all seem better already?

Having concluded the worst isn't possible … or well, likely, we can steel ourselves for dealing with a "not quite so bad as actual death" scenario.

The way I help myself get through difficult times is to consult people wiser than myself.

Fortunately, such people are not hard to find.

Usually, what these sages offer is simple, basic, sensible advice.

The kind of advice my mother gives. They just don't follow it up with, "And if you'd sat up straight at the dinner table, none of this would be happening." It makes all the difference.

Riding the Recession

Here we go, "You have nothing to fear but fear itself."

You see? We have only fear to fear. Well, that and ending up living in the dumpster behind the local No Frills.

I fear that for sure. Oh, and never knowing the pleasure of proper dental hygiene ever again.

I fear that. So those things and fear itself.

Actually this quote is not making me feel any better. "A penny saved is a penny earned."

Having checked my most recent RRSP statement I can tell you that this is not the case.

Apparently, in fact, "A penny saved is a penny sucked into the black hole of our tanking economy."

Has a nice ring to it though, doesn't it?

Finally from author Henry Miller. Miller insisted that happiness lies in pursuing wine, women, song and avoiding riches.

He blew his royalties on said wine and women (the singing was free), ending up living in a hut on Malibu beach. This, in the 1950s, was the Californian equivalent of a dumpster behind the No Frills.

Miller famously said, "If there is to be any peace it will come through being, not having."

In bad times and good, this gives me hope.

Anne Hines is an author and humour writer. She has written three novels and one collection of nonfiction humour.

MICHAEL DE ADDER

Views

Parking pains for TTC commuters

InTransit

Ed Drass

metronews.ca/intransit

While GO Transit riders may be used to yearly fare hikes, another group of commuters will have some difficult adjustments come April 1.

Metropass holders who drive their own cars to the subway currently pay nothing to park in a TTC lot. In two weeks it will cost between three and 12 dollars daily, depending on the location.

Auto commuters must decide whether to swallow the extra cost, cram onto buses or bypass the TTC altogether and drive to work.

TTC parking lot users Alicia Villar and Emesh Aubé are fighting the new charge and have created an electronic petition at thepetitionsite.com.

Called "Say NO to TTC Parking Fees," the online appeal has attracted over 4,800 supporters as of yesterday.

The women say many of the drivers who use TTC lots would have a tough time using buses. For some, travel time to work would become untenable while others have kids to drop off along the way.

The transit commission voted to remove the Metropass parking perk to some controversy last fall, but did not immediately set prices. The reality took a while to reach some affected customers and now emotions are high. People are "passionate and very angry" about the change, say the petitioners.

The petition states, "the TTC needs to reverse their decision."

This would require an emergency meeting since the commission is next set to convene April 3.

Transit chair Adam Giambrone and Toronto Mayor David Miller have been defending the scheme, saying the cost of providing parking falls unfairly on all riders. Between one and two cents of each fare goes toward maintaining the lots.

However, Aubé says many Metropass parking users do not use transit except on work days — a potential bonus to TTC revenues.

She says not only will some of the current customers decide to drive and thereby add traffic to the roads, they may be lost to the TTC as customers.

"Once you lose those riders it's a lot harder to get them back," she says.

TTC officials have been gearing up for the April 1 switchover by adding entry lanes and while they expect demand to drop initially, the plan is to set rates "at market levels" to ensure the lots are full — almost. Right now many locations at TTC and GO stations experience overcrowding as late-arriving drivers park illegally.

See ttc.ca under "Parking."

Toronto-based transport writer Ed Drass covers transit issues every Monday; transit@eddrass.com.

Worth Mentioning

Homeless protest held over police treatment

VANCOUVER 2010 **Games**

Residents of Vancouver's poverty-stricken Downtown Eastside held a protest yesterday, against what they see as police harassment through petty ticketing and random identification checks.

About 100 people showed up outside the police station on Main Street, in the heart of the impoverished neighbourhood.

They're upset that police are issuing tickets for things like jaywalking and illegal vending of goods — bylaws they say aren't enforced in nicer neighbourhoods.

Protesters set up a sidewalk sale hoping to attract police attention but officers stayed clear, sealing off the block as the rally spilled into the street.

David Eby of the B.C. Civil Liberties Association says he believes the tougher enforcement is a pre-Olympic strategy aimed at forcing poor people away from Downtown Eastside.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Metro Online Poll Results

63% SAID YES	Should police forces have powers of preventative detention? *Weigh in on today's question at metronews.ca*	37% SAID NO

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Obama administration says it can't block AIG bonuses
Insurance giant American International Group has agreed to restructure some of its corporate bonuses. However, it will still pay out millions of dollars in bonuses after the Obama administration determined it did not have the legal authority to block those payments. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Business

OPEC won't cut production

OPEC oil ministers say they will stick to present output levels but seek to end overproduction by some members. Yesterday's decision means there will be no cutbacks from production levels established in December. It also translates into pressure on members of the 12-country producer group who are exporting more oil than their quotas call for. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

EDITOR: FERMIN.DESOUZA@METRONEWS.CA

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Tough times can't keep Sony down

SHOWCASE Despite the poor economy, U.S. cable TV operator Comcast Corp. and electronics company Sony Corp. plan to open a retail store tomorrow to showcase new technologies and products.

Sony StyleComcast Labs will be ensconced in the Comcast Center, the newest skyscraper in Philadelphia and headquarters of the United States' largest cable operator.

The store will show off such things as home broadband equipment that would enable people to surf at 100 megabits a second — 17 times the average speed of cable broadband. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Produce Retailers fight back

JEFF CHIU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Retailers in the United States, who begrudgingly went along when food makers pushed up prices to recoup record-high costs, are flexing newfound muscle and demanding price cuts to match the recent steep retreat in ingredient costs.

Business in brief

AUTOS Even if Chrysler LLC gets more U.S. government loans, it could face another cash shortage in July when the company shuts down its factories for two weeks to change to the next model year, its chief financial officer said.

MEDIA The San Francisco Chronicle's largest employees union has approved a labour agreement that will allow the newspaper to lay off workers without regard to seniority, along with other cost-cutting measures.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Looking for good times

Investors will be anxious to see if stock markets have turned the corner — or if last week's gains were part of a temporary rally resulting from a massively oversold market.

"All it takes when you've had this type of overwhelming negative oversold market is a little bit of good news, some indication it's not quite as bad or not getting worse at the same pace, and — bang," observed Gavin Graham, director of investments, BMO Asset Management.

"It's not to say it's not sustainable, it's not to say it's anything more than a bear market rally, but what it does to show is that you need to be careful no matter how bearish your outlook is, because you can get these sudden 10, 15 per cent runs."

A rally took hold last week after U.S. giant Citigroup said it was profitable for the first two months of this year. That report energized investors who had been starved of good news and came at a time when the Toronto market was languishing at 2003 lows and the Dow industrials were at 1997 levels.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Toronto index

• The Toronto market's main index ended last week up 718 points or 9.5 per cent, with the financial sector up a staggering 18 per cent.

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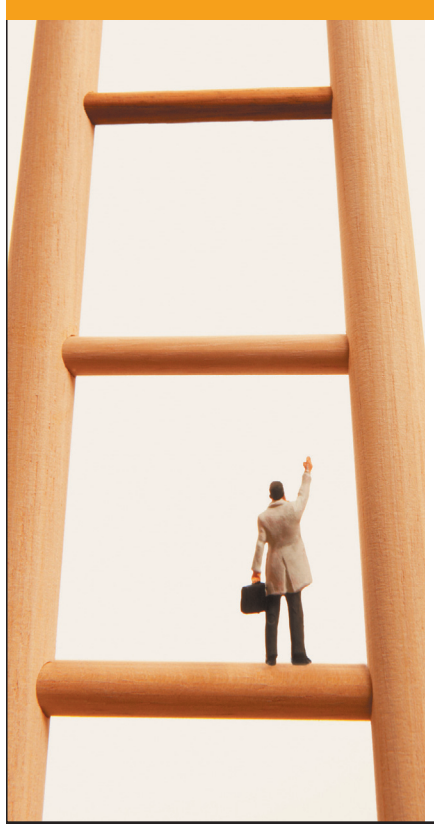

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Going Green

Cool washing

Wash your clothes in cold water. According to the Canadian Energy Efficiency Centre, if all households in Canada switched to cold water, enough energy would be saved to light more than 2.5 million households each year. These energy savings could potentially prevent 1.5 billion kilograms of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere. DAVID SUZUKI FOUNDATION

EDITOR: MIKE.DEREZYCKY@METRONEWS.CA

Trying to find the perfect fit

The discussion around eco-friendly fabrics centres around organic cotton

EarthTones

Sophia Dore & Andrew Laursen

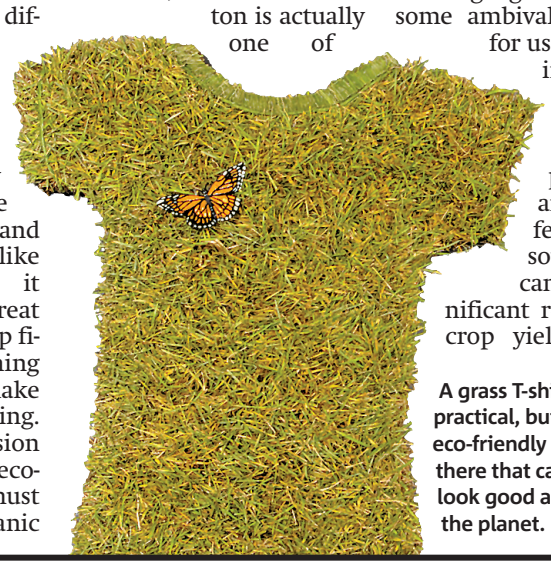
metronews.ca/earthtones

We were asked to write an article about eco-friendly clothing. Us? An article on fashion? One of us, not naming names, is lucky if his socks match when he goes to work. So rather than focusing on the vogue of eco-friendly, we thought we might talk about the fabrics of eco-friendly.

The debate about eco-friendly fabrics is actually pretty ancient, and began quite accidentally when the first Stone Age comedian responded to a heckler with, "Hey, nice shirt! How many mammoths did you have to kill for that?" Since then, choice of fabric has reflected attitudes toward resources.

We have seen many different "sustainable" fabrics, including those made from shredded pop bottles. Plastic fibres can actually make a pretty good, rugged substitute for fabrics like canvas, and is great for things like backpacks. However, it wouldn't make a great shirt. Bamboo and hemp fibres are also becoming more popular, and make good fabrics for clothing. However, the discussion around fabrics and eco-friendly fabrics really must centre around organic cotton.

In spite of growth in other plant fibres, cotton still provides about 50 per cent of all global fibre needs. Cotton is viewed as "natural" and, by many, preferable to synthetic fibres. However, traditional cotton is actually one of the most environmentally-damaging agricultural products we grow, accounting for about 25 per cent of global insecticide use on about 2.5 per cent of cropland.



A grass T-shirt may not be practical, but there are eco-friendly products out there that can make you look good and help save the planet.

Discussions of organic farming generally raise some ambivalent feelings for us. While moving away from heavy reliance on pesticides and synthetic fertilizers sounds good, it can lead to significant reductions in crop yield. Compensating for the lost production requires more land and carries opportunity costs in use of agricultural land for other crops.

Organic cotton production may reduce yield, and frequently does relative to traditional cotton. However, a number of recent studies on organic cotton production have found that yield can be comparable.

Typically, organic cotton uses animal manure as well as "green manure," a cover crop that is later tilled into the soil. When this cover crop is a food crop, this added benefit can actually improve the efficiency of land use. From a financial consideration, revenue from food production coupled with decreased expenditures on pesticides and increased premiums for organic cotton can even compensate the grower for any reduced cotton production.

Of course, nothing good comes without a price. Without the use of insecticides, a common practice is the use of natural predators. In California, production of organic cotton may employ the release of green lacewing larvae, predaceous mites, and wasps to reduce the populations of insects that damage cotton crops. This is probably the most damning aspect of organic cotton.

While organic cotton may be better for the environment than traditional cotton, maybe it is time to become comfortable with being asked, "Hey buddy, how many nylons did you have to kill to make that shirt?"

Sophia Dore is an environmental scientist with Conestoga-Rovers & Associates. Andrew Laursen is an assistant professor at Ryerson University; earthtones.metro@gmail.com.

Endangered Couture a new label

CLOTHING Endangered Couture has arrived for spring 2009. Founded by Tamara Danielle, a graduate from York University, Endangered Couture is a new fashion label devoted to raising awareness of endangered species and supporting environmental organizations such as the World Wildlife Fund.

The full line of organic, made-in-Canada, sweatshop-free T-shirts is just the beginning.

Danielle believes companies should be socially and environmentally proactive. She says it's about creating something that's more than just a T-shirt and not just a one-time charity campaign. It's about clothing that will continually raise awareness for endangered species and foster high-quality, sweatshop-free apparel across the globe, while supporting organizations that conserve vital ecosystems and biodiversity.

For more information, visit www.endangeredcouture.com.

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Speedskating gold for Canada

The Canadian trio of Kristina Groves, Christine Nesbitt and Brittany Schussler won gold in the women's team pursuit yesterday at the world singles distances speedskating championships in Richmond, B.C. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Sports

Lucky 200 for Jasey-Jay

Canada's Jasey-Jay Anderson captured a men's parallel giant slalom race yesterday in his 200th snowboard World Cup event. Anderson finished ahead of Austrian Benjamin Karl to capture the gold medal. Fellow Canadian Matthew Morrison finished eighth at the event in Spain despite racing with a broken wrist.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: JOHN.CHICK@METRONEWS.CA

Big East headlines March Madness

NCAA The Big East conference put up a big number yesterday: Three No. 1 seeds in the NCAA tournament. Louisville, Pittsburgh and Connecticut helped the Big East become the first conference to put three teams on the top line. North Carolina, the Atlantic Coast conference champions, was the other top seed. The tournament begins with a play-in game tomorrow and the remaining 64 teams start Thursday.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Sports in brief

GOLF Phil Mickelson won the CA Championship yesterday, closing with a 3-under 69 to outlast Nick Watney. Mickelson had to be treated at a local hospital Saturday for heat exhaustion and a mild case of dehydration. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Must be the green

NBA RESULT

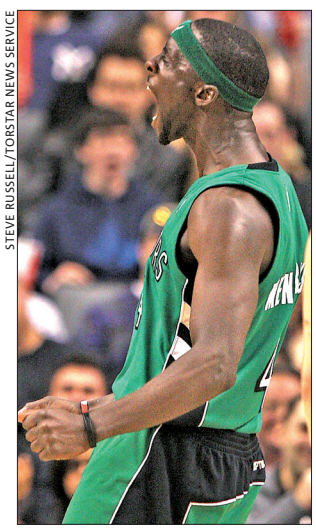
Pacers 87 Raptors 110

VS

A different look and a huge third quarter helped the Raptors snap their miserable seven-game losing streak yesterday.

Andrea Bargnani scored 27 points — and was 3-for-3 from beyond the arc — to lead Toronto to an emphatic 110-87 victory over the Indiana Pacers. Bargnani, limited to just nine minutes in Friday night's home loss to Detroit due to the flu, added nine rebounds and four assists for the Raptors (24-43), who wore green uniforms in honour of St. Patrick's Day.

Pops Mensah-Bonsu came off the bench to provide a career-high 21 points and eight rebounds as Toronto handed Indiana its third straight loss and fourth in five games.



STEVE RUSSELL/TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

Pops Mensah-Bonsu screams after a fourth-quarter dunk yesterday. Mensah-Bonsu had a career-high 21 points and eight rebounds.

"People say, 'Can he play in the NBA? Is he a power forward? What can he bring to the table?'" Mensah-Bonsu said. "And I feel like I finally got an opportunity to play and I've taken the opportunity.

"Once I left the league after my first year, I thought, 'Once I get a chance to be in the NBA again, I'm going to stay.' I'm just grateful for what coach (Jay) Triano has been doing for me, putting me out on the floor and I've been able to produce. And like I say, I'm here to stay and, hopefully, I've found a home in Toronto."

Chris Bosh had 15 points and 13 rebounds for the Raptors. Jose Calderon added 15 points and 12 assists. THE CANADIAN PRESS

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Carleton's Aaron Doornekamp kisses the W.P. McGee trophy.

Carleton back on top

CIS BASKETBALL FINAL

Carleton 87, UBC 77

Stuart Turnbull scored 22 points as the top-ranked Carleton Ravens defeated the No. 3 UBC Thunderbirds 87-77 yesterday to capture the 2009 CIS men's basketball title.

Turnbull earned tournament MVP honours while Chris Dyck topped UBC with 21 points.

The Ravens, making their sixth appearance in the final in the past seven years, captured their sixth national championship in front of a sea of red and black at Scotiabank Place in their hometown of Ottawa.

The Ravens almost didn't make it into the final, needing a shot at the buzzer to edge the Western Ontario Mustangs 66-65 in a thrilling semifinal Saturday.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Warmth evident between Brodeur, Roy

NHL Martin Brodeur and Patrick Roy were always thought to be rivals more than friends, but warmth was evident between them on the night they found themselves with 551 NHL goaltending victories.

Brodeur, one of the few goaltenders from Quebec who did not emulate Roy's butterfly style, tied Roy's record for career wins when his New Jersey Devils downed the Montreal Canadiens 3-1 Saturday.

Roy, the former Canadiens and Colorado Avalanche great, took time out from his job as co-owner, general manager and head coach of the Quebec Remparts to witness it in Montreal.

Martin Brodeur can break Patrick Roy's NHL wins record tomorrow.

Brodeur can break the record in New Jersey tomorrow night — St. Patrick's Day — when the Devils host the Chicago Blackhawks.

"I don't see Patrick like other people do," Brodeur said after the game.

"We're not the closest friends, everybody knows that. We're not guys who are going to call each other. But I was happy to see him and every time I have a chance and we're in the same room, we'll take time to talk.

"He's a guy I looked up to when I was young. And now, tying the record of your idol, that's pretty cool. Not many athletes have a chance to do that."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Milwaukee 86 Boston 77
Orlando 105 Utah 87
Philadelphia 85 Miami 77
Washington 106 Sacramento 104
Phoenix at Golden State
New Jersey at L.A. Clippers

NHL

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Detroit 4 Columbus 0
N.Y. Islanders 4 Chicago 2
N.Y. Rangers 4 Philadelphia 1
Pittsburgh 6 Boston 4
St. Louis 5 Minnesota 3
San Jose at Anaheim
Colorado at Vancouver

WORLD BASEBALL CLASSIC

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS

Japan 6 Cuba 0
Netherlands vs. U.S.
South Korea vs. Mexico

For more sports coverage visit: metronews.ca

Ottawa wants PSE infrastructure funds reserved for science
The federal government is insisting that its $2-billion post-secondary education infrastructure plan be used on science and technology projects. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Workology

Trent honours five

Trent University in Peterborough, Ont., announced recently that fresh water specialist Maude Barlow, actress and director Sarah Polley, the Honourable Iona Campagnolo, Aboriginal activist Tom Porter and artist Mary Pratt will receive honorary degrees at convocation ceremonies this June. METRO NEWS SERVICES

EDITOR: DOUGLAS.DUNLOP@METRONEWS.CA

Manicures and martinis

Downtown lounge offers up a very decadent experience

Fuzion Resto-Lounge and Garden at Church and Wellesley offers you a chance to get your nails done and sip a martini.

BRIAN TOWIE
Metro Canada

Jimmy Georgoulis wants to spoil customers with a double shot of decadence.

The owner of Fuzion Resto-Lounge and Garden, on Church Street steps north of Wellesley, is offering hardworking patrons the chance to indulge themselves by serving martinis while they get manicures in the fine dining restaurant's Vizion Lounge. Manicures start at $25. Three-ounce martinis are $11.

"We're selling an experience," said Georgoulis, who has more than a decade of party-planning experience under his belt.

"We thought it would be neat to create a new social atmosphere where people can have a martini and a manicure done. So, we think it's very fun, creative and dynamic."

Georgoulis got the inspiration for the idea when London, Ont., entrepreneur Martin Younan pitched the idea to the cast of investors on CBC reality show Dragons' Den. The Dragons turned him down. Six weeks following the airing of the episode, Georgoulis found Younan at his bar. The pair then pooled their resources to promote the service at an exclusive event last January.

"I thought it was a great idea, but I didn't think a shop exclusively for manicures and martinis had enough for it to be its own business," Georgoulis said.

"But I thought, 'It would be a great idea for my business because I have the space for it, and it would be a great add-on. Time passed, I got busy and a few weeks later, who's in my bar sipping a martini?"

The tough times call for innovation, Georgoulis said and he's hoping the add-on will bring in more business in a bad economic climate.

"We file more than we cut, we give the hand a little bit of a massage and there's nothing toxic and smelly about it. It's something to do after work," he said. "In these economic times, you need to draw more people into your restaurant, and that's one way to do it."

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Popularity impacts earning power

New research from U.K.-based Essex University adds to growing evidence that social skills are essential to success later on in life. The study found that for each extra friend a student had in school, their salary 35 years later was two per cent higher. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Picking nits and healing hearts

As a child, Dawn Mucci had the kind of long, thick hair that lice just loved. She got so many infestations her classmates nicknamed her Dirty Dawn.

The memory of the taunts and the horrible smelling chemicals her dad put on her hair came back when Mucci's son came home with lice one day in 1999. The Toronto mom had a really hard time getting rid of it, and then got it herself.

Mucci went in a mission to find a chemical-free way to get rid of the vermin. By chance, she was thinking of changing jobs at the time (she was managing a health and wellness store) and went to a job bank. She saw a posting for a nit picker there.

The woman running the company was doing manual lice removal and needed more staff. "Look, you've got to help me first and then I'll work for you," said Mucci.

Four months later, Mucci was managing the company. After a year, her boss called from a vacation in Hawaii saying she wasn't coming back.

She launched Lice Squad in 2000 and was busy right away through word-of-mouth. Before long, she was getting calls from outside the Toronto area. She began franchising her concept in 2001: "This is something anyone can do, if taught properly."

When Mucci, now 39 and relocated to Innisfil, Ont., gets a call from a client, usually a distressed parent, she shows up at their door with an unmarked car (staff have stickers, but they take them off when doing home visits) within one to three days.

She spends a lot of time talking to the client, educating them about lice (who love clean hair, by the way). She pulls out her gear, including lights, goggles, tweezers and lice comb.

Odd Jobs

Diane Peters

Metronews.ca/oddjobs

Mucci and her franchisees and staff follow a special seven-step process that involves identifying lice, killing the vermin and manual removal of bugs and eggs.

Previously trained in aromatherapy, Mucci has developed a full line of natural hair products made with natural ingredients such as lemon and lavender. She uses some of her concoctions during an extraction, which takes about two hours on average, and offers up a products for clients to buy as well.

Since the bugs themselves don't bother Mucci (and she's never gotten lice again — she and her staff follow strict cleanliness protocol), for her the job is all about the people she meets and helps. "It truly is meaningful work. People are feeling very isolated and ostracized and they're very grateful."

Diane Peters once hawked magic pens at the Canadian National Exhibition. She's now a writer and part-time journalism instructor.

The Lowdown

Job title: Nit picker
Salary: $60 an hour
Education/training: On-the-job training
Best Part of the Job: "Meeting all the people and being able to help them."
Worst Part of the Job: "You see some pretty horrible cases. You have to have a thick skin. We work for children's agencies too and we go into situations that are heartbreaking."

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Digital media graduate school planned for downtown
Ryerson University president Sheldon Levy announced Thursday that he and the leaders of the Universities of Toronto and Waterloo have been discussing the creation of a digital media graduate school in downtown Toronto. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Career Shift

From beautiful to grotesque

RAFAEL BRUSILOW
for Metro Canada

Movie monsters and beautiful people share an important thing — they both need talented makeup artists to help them look their best.

With many people leaving their old careers in the struggling economy, some people are realizing they can turn their lipstick dreams and artistic imaginations into a lucrative career as a professional makeup artist.

Pamela Earle, president and owner of the Complections International Academy of Make-up Artistry in Toronto, says demand to get into the school hasn't been this fervent since Ontario dropped the O.A.C. year from high schools, forcing two years' worth of students to enter post-secondary education and the job market together.

"We're going to have a waiting list for the first time since the double-cohort year — it's very exciting," Earle said.

RAFAEL BRUSILOW/FOR METRO CANADA

RAFAEL BRUSILOW/FOR METRO CANADA

Left: Pamela Earle, president and owner of Complections, holds a prosthetic mask. Right: Instructor Neil Morrill works on a face.

Unlike cosmetology schools, which focus on retail-level skills in things like nail care, skin care or hair removal, Complections is solely centred on having students master makeup in all its artistic applications.

At Complections, students don't just learn to apply traditional fashion makeup — they build moustaches and beards from scratch, create terrifying movie-monster prosthetic masks and learn to transform an actor to look 50 years older using makeup.

The emphasis, Earle says, is to train students in a much wider range of makeup skills in demand across multiple industries, ensuring a better chance for employment and nurturing career-building talent.

"We're sort of an art school as well as a makeup school — it's all about being creative and there is plenty of work out there," Earle said.

With primary programs ranging from 14 to 32 weeks in length, students can stick to mastering the traditional fashion/glamour makeup needed on runways, music videos and commercials around the world or opt to go the extra mile and expand their skills to include makeup for film and television, studio hairstyling, special effects, prosthetics and even creature design.

Dino Delio from the television show CityLine is one of the school's most popular instructors, while the slowdown in the entertainment industry has meant the school benefits from more experienced guest instructors than ever before.

On an average day you might catch a group of zombies with gaping head wounds heading out the doors of the school to grab a quick lunch, or see a bevy of runway-ready beauties getting worked on in the fashion studio.

If you think you've got an eye for what makes things beautiful (or grotesque), visit complectionsmakeup.com.

–RAFAEL BRUSILOW

Training important in poor economy

CAREERS Losing your job doesn't mean losing your skills — it might just mean it's time to put those skills to work in a new way.

With more people becoming unemployed in the economic crunch every month, prospects for finding work in the same industry you just left are looking dim. Luckily, retraining is always an option.

Jason Johnston, a manager at career training and education institute triOS College, says retraining in the bad economy is more important than ever. Employment in the types of fields triOS trains for such as technology, health care and finance is still booming.

"We're not noticing a decline or loss of momentum in our graduate employment rates," Johnston said.

With eight campuses across Southern Ontario (see trios.com), programs at triOS like the Accounting and Payroll Administrator diploma program are more popular than ever, since there is always a need for these types of jobs.

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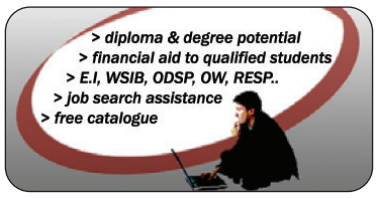
CANADIAN BUSINESS COLLEGE



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Slumdog actress could be next Bond girl
Freida Pinto, star of Slumdog Millionaire, has reportedly been approached by Barbara Broccoli, producer of the James Bond films, to do a screen test opposite Daniel Craig for the next 007 film, according to the U.K.'s Sun newspaper. **PEOPLE.COM**

Entertainment

Dating denial

Britney Spears is not seeing her agent Jason Trawick, says a source close to Spears. "They are absolutely, 100 per cent not dating," says the source. "He is her agent, and that is it." USMAGAZINE.COM

EDITOR: DEAN.LISK@METRONEWS.CA

Heartthrob hits the stage

Former Degrassi star Jake Epstein moves into more exploratory realm

Here's the astonishing thing about Jake Epstein: What you see is what you get.

The star of TV's Degrassi: The Next Generation is currently appearing as C.B., the Charlie Brown surrogate, in Dog Sees God, the ironic deconstruction of the legendary Peanuts characters that's playing at Six Degrees at 2335 Yonge St.

Epstein, 22, has been a performer for almost all of his life, making his professional stage debut in Soulpepper's Our Town at the Royal Alex before appearing on The Zack Files, prior to Degrassi and then going on to a stint at the National Theatre School.

But sitting opposite him at a midtown pub, he seems less like the quintessential teen heartthrob and more like the kind of guy you'd like to have with you on a cross-country ski trip.

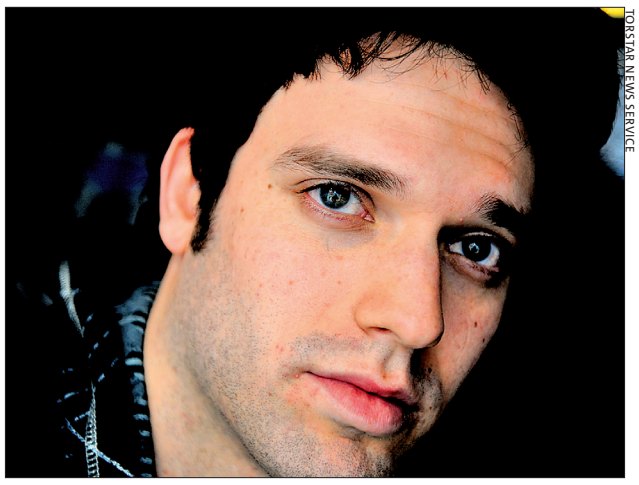
"I was a jock," he laughs, "hardcore sports all the way down the line, but I heard that if you auditioned for this arts school, you got time off school and that sounded good to me."

He insists he was blindsided when he walked into Claude Watson to study theatre and found himself within a year working for Soulpepper Theatre.

After that, it was on to Mirvish Productions, where he played the Artful Dodger in Sam Mendes' production of Oliver!

"I never really thought that this would be my profession," he admits. "I thought it was a lot of fun and I enjoyed doing it."

Without even trying, he got cast in shows like The Zack Files, but the big moment, of course, was when he was offered the role of Craig on Degrassi: The Next Generation.



TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

After five seasons on Degrassi: The Next Generation, actor Jake Epstein left for the National Theatre School.

Edgy and experienced beyond his years, young Epstein suddenly found himself doing things on screen he had never experienced in real life.

His character went through periods of drug abuse and violence that would have tipped the hand of many younger men playing the role.

He stayed with the show for five seasons, became incredibly popular and won a Gemini Award but then, one day, he found himself asking, "I'm 18 years old and I can do anything I want; why am I here?"

That question sent him away from the safety of a hit TV series and to the National Theatre School, where he found it "very hard and very humbling. They break you down and it was amazing for me."

Since his graduation, he made a splash as Prince Charming in Ross Petty's Christmas production of Cinderella, opposite his Degrassi co-star, Paula Brancati. But now he's into something completely different with Dog Sees God, which takes all the classic tropes of the Peanuts cartoon strip and turns them on their head. The show begins with the death of Snoopy and finds Charlie Brown (or "C.B." as he's called here) trying to cope with the trauma.

"That's a little strange for me to deal with," he says at first, but then he laughs dismissively and says "no, it isn't. What the hell, I'm in theatre!" **TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE**

Box office

Ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theatres, according to estimates:

1. **Race to Witch Mountain:** $25 million US
2. **Watchmen:** $18.1 million
3. **The Last House on the Left:** $14.7 million
4. **Taken:** $6.7 million
5. **Madea Goes to Jail:** $5.1 million
6. **Slumdog Millionaire:** $5 million
7. **Paul Blart: Mall Cop:** $7.1 million
8. **He's Just Not That Into You:** $2.9 million
9. **Coraline:** $2.7 million
10. **Miss March:** $2.3 million

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Research team's surgical checklist featured on episode of ER

If the surgical safety checklist were an actor, it would have earned a Screen Actors Guild card for the role it played in last Thursday's pivotal episode of the medical drama ER.

The safe surgery tool saved the day — and a donor kidney destined for the ailing Dr. John Carter — in a crucial scene in what was likely one of the most anticipated episodes in the storied show's history.

The team that designed the surgical checklist and tested it in a study published earlier this year was thrilled by the spotlight ER focused on a tool they believe can have a major impact on reducing deaths and complications due to surgical errors around the world.

"I have to tell you it got to me in a way I never anticipated," the team's leader, Dr. Atul Gawande of Harvard School of Public Health, admitted in an email.

> **"It got to me in a way I never anticipated."**
> Dr. Atul Gawande

"Producing a checklist that could save lives is what we on our team at the World Health Organization spent the better part of two years working to make happen. And underneath it all is a cultural change for surgery exactly like ER depicted on a screen — a change from seeing ourselves as solo agents to effective teams."

The program makes medical experts available to Hollywood writers and producers with an aim of increasing the accuracy of the portrayal of medical and health issues in TV programs and in films.

Thursday's show featured the long-awaited return of former cast member George Clooney as Dr. Doug Ross, along with fellow series originals Julianna Margulies (as Ross's wife, Carol Hathaway), La Salle and Wyle.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Biddell's transformative show

Last season's Project Runway Winner, Evan Biddell, explores societies' technological transformation with his vision of the bionic woman, unveiling his fall '09 collection, Mechanical Anatomy, at LG Fashion Week this Friday at 7 p.m. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Get ready for seven days of style, Toronto

FASHION Will there be drunken speeches? Will there be washers and dryers on the runway? Will models stumble? Will there be celebrities in the front row?

The answers to these questions can be found tonight under the tents at Nathan Phillips Square where the Fashion Design Council of Canada kicks off fashion week.

This season, there's a new title sponsor, an electronics giant, resulting in a rather clunky moniker; LG Fashion Week Beauty by L'Oréal Paris. There's a milestone factor — it's the 10th anniversary and the theme is Show Love.

Just how much love will be shown will be determined by how many people show up.

The general public is invited but at a whopping $75 for a day pass. What do you get for that pricy ticket?

Well, you get to view the fall 2009 collections of some of the best names in Canadian fashion. You might discover new talents, judging from the smattering of young designers showing.

Some of the highlights:

David Dixon's collection inspired by Barbie — the grown-up clothes will be available in the new Barbie department at the Bay's Queen Street flagship store tomorrow.

The Heart Truth Fashion Show, which promotes heart health, featuring red dresses designed by Canadian designers and modelled by Canadian celebs. Catherine O'Hara brought down the house last year when she fell on the runway — and played it to the hilt.

There will be a plus-sized model search and Project Runway Canada will stage a runway show with three finalists — good luck getting a ticket to that one. It will be heavily secured, since the show will be airing at a later date.

For more information, visit lgfashionweek.ca.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

The bad boys of fashion

Designers skirt Toronto Fashion Week with early shows

This is going rogue, vogue-style. Two of Toronto's biggest fashion labels pre-empted Toronto's LG Fashion Week, which starts today. And one has opted out entirely.

"Our way, we have more creative control," says Kirk Pickersgill, part of a duo with Stephen Wong behind it-label Greta Constantine, which staged its fall fashion show Friday night at The Courthouse. "From the moment we put pen to paper right up to the runway show ... we are control freaks."

And there's this: "That whole tent situation (at Fashion Week) always has the same people," says Pickersgill. "Our way, we get to pick and choose the people we want to invite."

Toronto Fashion Week, celebrating its 10th anniversary this year, is a biannual event with a mandate to showcase local talent. So what happens when the local talent stage their own shows instead?

Fashion Week organizers did not return numerous calls for comment.

Thien Le, however, renowned for couture-level craftmanship, wasn't shy to share his view.

"It's a lot of money and you know what, I'm not going to get anything out of it. What's the point?"

The no-nonsense designer caters to jet-set clients at his downtown studio. "A lot of people live on hype. I don't. My clients don't care."

Le showed his collection at Fashion Week last season but won't participate next week.

Designer Philip Sparks, whose Thursday show at the Burroughes Building near Queen and Bathurst streets evoked the Russian musical fairy tale Peter and the Wolf, was careful to attribute his pre-Fashion Week staging to esthetics and scheduling, not politics.

"We wanted that hardwood floor, that raw industrial space instead of the slick look of the runway at the tents," he said, noting buyers enjoy the laid-back vibe.

"A lot of our boutique buyers are more inclined to come to a smaller, off-site show than to the tents, which can be overwhelming."

Fashion Week has a few hurdles, most notably price.

A new designer pays $2,500 to show at Fashion Week; a designer label can pay up to $10,000 and a retail chain can pay up to $25,000.

"You are basically a no-name and you're trying to compete at a price point with companies that have major advertising budgets," says designer Izzy Camilleri, whose business is currently on hiatus. "You think that putting yourself on the stage of Fashion Week will help. It does help get you press. I've had a tonne of press. But it doesn't help with sales." In fact, Camilleri says she showed at Fashion Week for four consecutive years but the exposure didn't lead to a single order.

Joeffer Caoc, a well-established designer who has been showing at Fashion Week for nearly a decade, begs to differ. "The media that we get out of it — that is our marketing for the season."

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICES

KEITH BEATY /TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

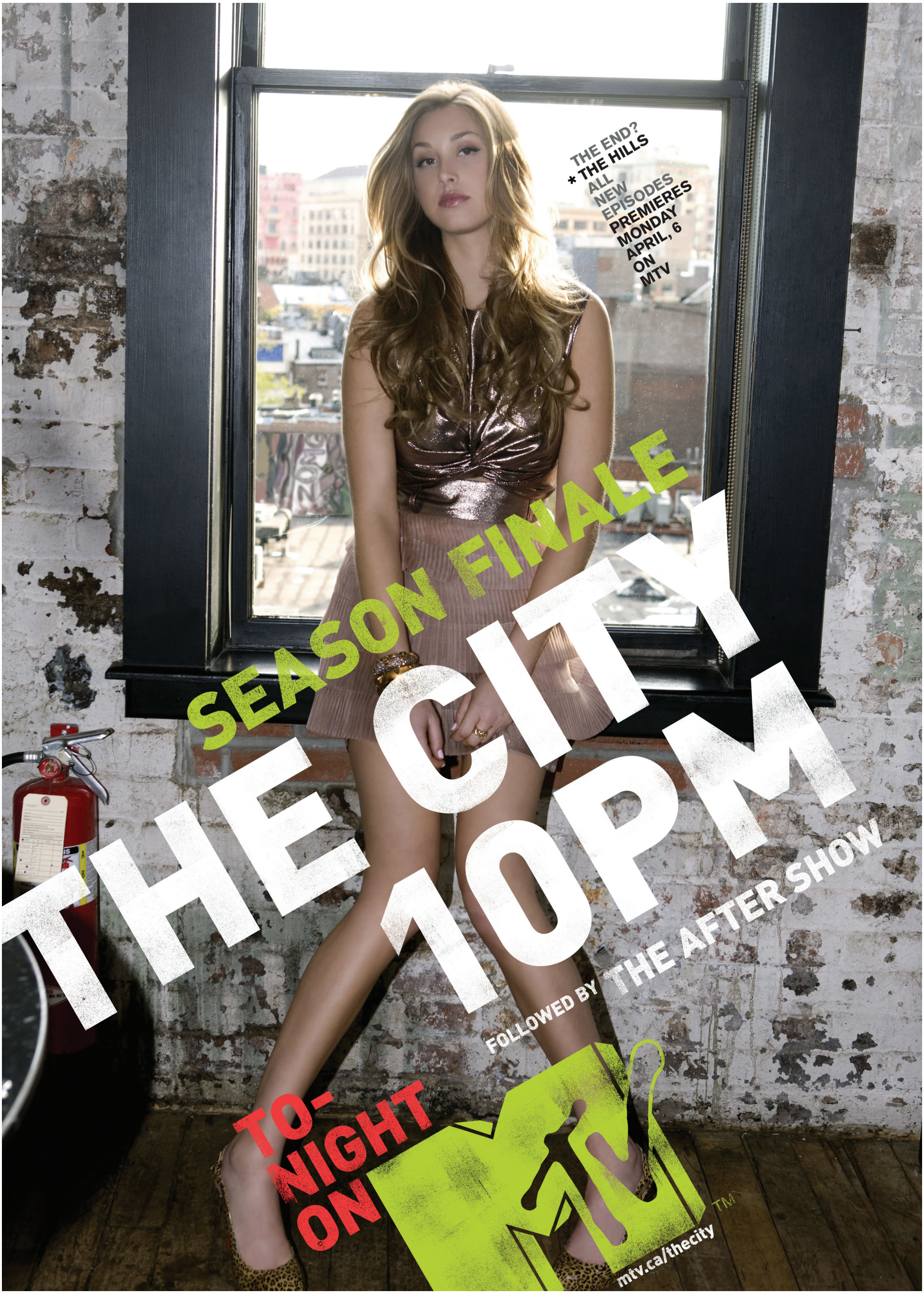
A model displays a creation from Greta Constantine's fall collection.

Upcoming runway shows

Tonight at Toronto Fashion Week:
- Barbie by David Dixon, 8 p.m.

Tuesday, March 17:
- Ula Zukowska, 3 p.m.
- Travis Taddeo, 4 p.m.
- Zoran Dobric, 5 p.m.
- Joeffer Caoc, 6 p.m.
- Lundstrom, 7 p.m.
- Bustle, 8 p.m.
- Heart Truth Fashion Show, 9 p.m.

(All shows take place in the tents at Nathan Phillips Square)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Superman comic sells for $317, 200

COLLECTIBLE A rare copy of the first comic book featuring Superman has sold for $317,200 in an Internet auction. The previous owner had bought it for less than a buck.

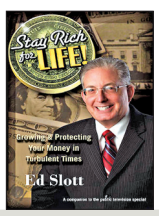
It's one of the highest prices ever paid for a comic book, a likely testament to the volume's rarity and its excellent condition, said Stephen Fishler, co-owner of the auction site ComicConnect.com and its sister dealership, Metropolis Collectibles.

The winning bid for the 1938 edition of Action Comics No. 1, which features Superman lifting a car on its cover, was submitted Friday evening by John Dolmayan, drummer for the rock band System of a Down, according to managers at ComicConnect.com.

Dolmayan, who is also a dealer of rare comic books, said he acquired the Superman comic on behalf of a client he declined to identify. "This is one of the premier books you could collect," he said. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Saving those nest eggs

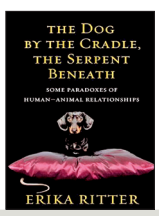
BookPicks



Stay Rich for **Life**

Author: Ed Slott
Publisher: Ballantine Books
Price: $28 (Hardcover)

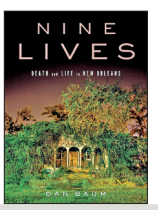
Popular American financial speaker Ed Slott specializes in retirement savings, but his new book, Stay Rich For Life, instructs how you can take steps at any stage in life to protect and foster the growth of your money. Although the terms he uses are largely applicable to Americans, his fundamental message is all encompassing. Slott advises readers to understand themselves and where they're going, learn as much as they can, know "tax traps" and dodge them, factor in long-term financial aims and take baby steps for healthy financial growth.



The Dog by the Cradle, The **Serpent Beneath**

Author: Erika Ritter
Publisher: Key Porter Books
Price: $27.95 (Hardcover)

The family pet is a conundrum to Erika Ritter. The Canadian writer and former CBC Radio host takes a gander at how we idealize some animals, like the domestic dog and cat, but continue to ravage the lives of others. In The Dog by the Cradle, The Serpent Beneath, Ritter reaches back to the tale of a cradled baby left guarded by a dog, while a serpent lingers unbeknownst underneath, to describe the contradiction between how we treat some animals more favourably than others.



Nine **Lives**

Author: Dan Baum
Publisher: Spiegel & Grau
Price: $30 (Hardcover)

If prone to natural disasters like Hurricane Katrina and known as a historically destitute city, what draws people to New Orleans? Former staffer at the New Yorker Dan Baum tries to find the answer, in this account derived when his curiosity was piqued while reporting on the post-Katrina city. Baum enters the unique world of New Orleans using nine very different characters that share a commitment to the city. From a transsexual bartender, to a cop scarred by the hurricane, and a member of the New Orleans upper crust, Baum discovers a city that he contends has been narrowly painted by disaster coverage.

BRIAN COULTON/ FOR METRO CANADA

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Baldwin's morbid TV tastes
Alec Baldwin's TV tastes run more morbid than his comedy show, 30 Rock, admitting he enjoys shows about "Palm Beach murder trials" and MSNBC. METRO WORLD NEWS

Former wrestler Martin dead

DEATH Police say former professional wrestler Andrew Martin, who was known as "Test" and "The Punisher" to fans, has died at his Tampa home. He was 33.

The former World Wrestling Entertainment champion and Whitby, Ont., native was found dead at his apartment Friday night after a neighbour reported that she could see a motionless Martin through his apartment window.

Police say there was no indication of foul play. A cause of death will be determined after an autopsy.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Canadians lead in online video viewing

Canadians are the heaviest viewers of online video in the world, according to a study from digital tracking firm comScore.

The company found that 88 per cent of Canadians who used the Internet in January watched video, said Bryan Segal, vice-president of comScore Canada.

"We're very high adopters of technology," Segal said Friday.

"I would love to say (it's) the weather, but I just don't know for sure if that is a reason. But I would say people stay home and stay indoors a little bit more ... And there's some great Canadian content out there to watch."

The United Kingdom followed Canada with 81 per cent of its online population watching video in January, Segal said. In third place was Germany, with France and the U.S. rounding out the top five.

In Canada, half of the videos watched were through YouTube, Segal said. Megavideo.com and Yahoo were among other top video-watching sites.

New media consultant Alan Sawyer said using the Internet for video is a trend that is bound to grow, particularly among younger people.

"It is becoming the preferred choice for consumption for a lot of people as opposed to the big-screen TV experience," said Sawyer of Toronto-based Two Solitudes Consulting.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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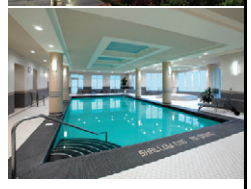

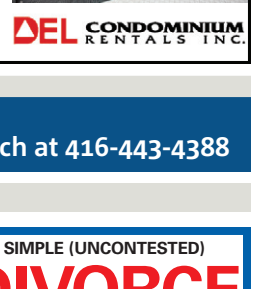

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No life after Lost?
Lost actor Matthew Fox believes his small-screen career will be over when the program finishes at the end of season six next year. FEMALEFIRST.CO.UK

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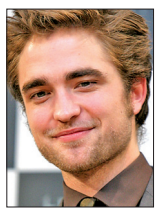
Pattinson spooked by 'naked stuff'

PEOPLE Robert Pattinson says he wasn't prepared to film his first sex scenes for the upcoming period drama Little Ashes.

The Twilight actor portrays Spanish artist Salvador Dali as a young man. He tells GQ magazine's April issue that he was uncomfortable as crew members watched and giggled during his graphic interlude with a male co-star.


Robert Pattinson

"In a lot of ways, I was kind of crossing lines of what I thought I was comfortable doing," he said. "I had to do all this naked stuff."

The British heartthrob says he wanted to try "something weird," but the part was more difficult than he'd anticipated. Pattinson has found a way to take the edge off before: Pattinson says he took a quarter of a Valium pill before his Twilight audition.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chaos erupts in Top Model tryouts

Three arrested during show's auditions

Three people were arrested and six others hurt Saturday after bedlam broke out while they waited to audition for America's Next Top Model, police said.

Police didn't know what prompted the chaos involving hundreds of people outside the Park Central New York hotel in Manhattan.

The panic left the street outside the hotel littered with shoes and clothing, news reports said.

"It was pretty scary," Jessica Paravati told WNYW-TV.

She said she was caught up in a stampede after waiting in line overnight, hoping for a shot at stardom on the reality show.

Two women and a man were arrested on disorderly conduct charges, police said. Authorities also shut down the audition, saying it wasn't properly organized.

Four injured people declined treatment, while two others were taken to a hospital, the fire department said. Their conditions weren't immediately available.

The hotel's phone rang unanswered. Representatives for The CW Network, which airs the show, released a statement saying it was working with authorities investigating the incident.

The model competition is hosted by supermodel Tyra Banks, who also serves as its executive producer. The current season began March 4.

Her agent and publicist didn't immediately return telephone calls.

Banks has said she created the show to counter stereotypes about beauty and Saturday's auditions were open only to women no taller than 5-foot-7, which is shorter than the industry's conventions.

America's Next Top Model host Tyra Banks.

Tryouts also were being held this month across the United States, including Dallas, Chicago and Los Angeles.

At least one would-be contestant in the New York throng said the tumult wouldn't stop her from trying again.

"This is my dream, so I'm not going to give up," Gifty Asika told WNBC-TV.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

TO	Vu	SC	C	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00
primetime 3/16/09	265	353	2	TVO	Time Team (N)		The Agenda With Steve Paikin		Rebus "The Falls"		Auschwitz:Nazi-Final Solution		Agenda-Paikin
	211	331	3	GTV	ET Canada	Entertainment	House "Here Kitty" (N)		24 (HDTV PA) (N)		Heroes (HDTV)		News
	215	343	4	OMN1	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons	News (N)		Vivere Il	News (N)	The Simpsons	King of the Hill	Metropia
	210	302	6	CBC	Coronation St.	Jeopardy! (N)	Little Mosque	Sophie (N)	Comedy Fest	Comedy Fest.	CBC News: The National		The Hour
	214	344	7	CITY	Law & Order: SVU		Chuck (HDTV)		Less-Kind	Friends	Mantracker		News (N)
	212	313	8	CTV	etalk	Hollywood	Big Bang Th	Gary Unmarr	Two/Half Men	Corner Gas (N)	CSI: Miami "Flight Risk"		News (N)
	218	345	11	E!	The Insider (N)	E! News	The Soup	How I Met	'Til Death	Engagement	Snoop Father	Snoop Father	News (N)
	137	763	13	TFO	Panorama		Lascaux, le ciel des hommes		*Cent jours à Palerme* (1984, Drame policier)			Folie-aventure	Professionels
	-	-	14	-	Raymond	Raymond	News (N)		News (N)		Two/Half Men	King	Buffalo Spirit
	213	326	15	SUN	Scrubs	George Lopez	Funniest Pets	Funniest Pets	One Tree Hill (HDTV) (N)		To Serve and Protect		Becker
	-	387	16	CBS	Inside Edition	Hollywood	Big Bang Th	How I Met	Two/Half Men	Engagement	CSI: Miami "Flight Risk"		News (N)
	-	385	17	NBC	The Insider (N)	Entertainment	Chuck (HDTV)		Heroes (HDTV)		Medium "Car Trouble"		News (N)
	-	386	18	ABC	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dancing With the Stars (HDTV) (Live)				(10:02) Castle (N)		News
	219	346	20	ACH-B	Instant Star	TMZ (N)	Dancing With the Stars (HDTV) (Live)				(10:02) Castle (N)		News (N)
	-	-	28	FOX	Judge Judy (N)	Two/Half Men	House "Here Kitty" (N)		24 (HDTV PA) (N)		Seinfeld	Two/Half Men	The Simpsons
	-	388	61	PBS	News-Lehrer	Time Goes By	The Brain Fitness Program			Pounce for Alpha	Wealth With Ken Stern		Business Rpt.
	297	652	330	WPX	Two/Half Men	Family Guy	Gossip Girl (HDTV) (N)		One Tree Hill (HDTV) (N)		PIX News at Ten Tong.		Two/Half Men
	296	654	331	SBK	Wheel-Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	Dr. Phil (HDTV)		WBZ News (N)	'70s Show	Frasier	Frasier	Punk'd
	298	653	332	TLA	Jamie Foxx	Wayans Bros.	My Wife-Kids	According-Jim	Friends	KTLA News	Two/Half Men	Two/Half Men	Gossip Girl (N)
news	502	390	26	NW	CBC News	Newman	The Hour		CBC News: The National		Allergy Planet Allergies.		National
	500	500	33	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight		Campbell Brown: No Bias		Larry King Live (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 (HDTV)		
	509	504	79	CNB	Kudlow Report		CNBC Reports (HDTV)		Big Brother, Big Business		On the Money		Mad Money
sports	405	417	22	net	World Sport	Sportsnet Con.	Baseball World Classic -- Teams TBA. (HDTV) From Dolphin Stadium in Miami. (Live)						Baseball
	400	400	30	TSN	NBA Basketball Toronto Raptors at Charlotte Bobcats. (HDTV) (Live)					SportsCentre		That's Hockey!	SportsCentre
	411	457	58	OLN	Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman		Mantracker		Bounty Hunter	Bounty Hunter	Survivorman
	417	406	81	SC	Pimp My Ride	Pass Time	This Week in NASCAR		SuperCars	SuperCars	Barrett-Jackson		Car Crazy
family	551	542	25	YTV	Karaoke Star Junior		Malcolm-Mid.	Futurama	League-Evil	Zixx Level	Falcon Beach		Mystery Hnt.
	554	544	45	TEL	Totally Spies	Total Drama	6TEEN	6TEEN	Futurama	Punch	Robot Chicken	American Dad	Moral Orel
	556	540	51	FAM	Wizards-Place	Han. Montana	Zack & Cody	Latest Buzz	Wizards-Place	Life Derek	Ned's School	Cory in House	Zack & Cody
cable variety	602	567	27	W	Will & Grace	Friends	How Clean	Kim	Love It or List It		Dollars-Sense	Smart Cookies	Maxed Out
	570	580	29	MM	America's Best Dance Crew		disBand	Technical Diff.	Shot at Love-Tila Tequila		MuchNews	Video on Trial	MuchVibe
	615	520	31	A&E	Intervention "Dan"		Intervention "Brad"		Intervention "Sandy" (N)		Paranormal	Paranormal	Paranormal
	700	800	35	TLN	Centrovetrine	Sky TG 24	Carabinieri		Carabinieri		Raymond	Raymond	George Lopez
	571	581	36	MMM	mmmtop	Revival	Listed (Part 1 of 2)		Don't Forget the Lyrics!		Don't Forget the Lyrics!		Where You At
	575	583	38	CMT	Karaoke Star Junior (N)		Home Improve.	Home Improve.	Reba	Reba	Hope & Faith	Hope & Faith	Karaoke Star
	616	521	39	SHO	The Outer Limits		Cashing In	Kink in Hair	Kenny-Spenny	Kenny-Spenny	Name Is Earl	The Office	House
	620	523	40	BVO	Eva: The Price of Passion		Djangomania!		Yo-Yo Ma: The Making of Songs of Joy & Peace				Law & Order
	601	562	41	SLC	Skin Deep	Til Debt-Part	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Wedding SOS	Project Runway Canada		ET Canada
	522	506	43	HIS	NCIS "Reveille"		Death or Canada Irish-famine migration.				NCIS "Reveille"		Sea Hunters
	625	548	44	COM	Air Farce	Just for Laughs		Corner Gas	The Simpsons	South Park	Brand in New York City		Daily Show
	600	564	46	H&G	House Hunters	Property Virgin	For Rent	Income Prop.	Property Virgin	House Hunters	Ambrose Price	Petal Pushers	Holmes-Homes
	294	529	47	TBS	House-Payne	House-Payne	*Men in Black* ★★★ (1997, Comedy) Tommy Lee Jones.				Steve Harvey	Seinfeld	Family Guy
	576	582	49	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live		*King's Ransom* ★ (2005, Comedy) Anthony Anderson.				Harlem Heights	Harlem Heights	Judge Hatchett
	627	528	50	SPC	Stargate Atlantis (DVS)		Star Trek: Voyager		Lost		Sarah Connor Chronicles		Stargate SG-1
	581	566	52	MTV	The City	City Live After	MTV News	Cribs	The Girls of Hedsor Hall		The City	City Live After	MTV Live
	618	524	54	TROP	Vanity Insanity	Reality	Reality	E News	Ground Up		Are You Smarter		Make or Break
	603	561	56	FOOD	Chef at Home	Chef at Home	Restaurant Makeover		Food Detective	Road Tasted	Hell's Kitchen		Chef School
	261	394	60	V	Murder, She Wrote		Eyes Down	May-December	McLeod's Daughters (N)		Twist of Faith	Clergy	Poltergeist
	621	527	63	STR	The Ellen DeGeneres Show (N)		TMZ (N)	etalk	Paris Hilton's British Friend		The Tonight Show-Jay Leno		TMZ
	553	546	65	TRE	Backyardigans	Nght Grdn	Max & Ruby	Franklin	Little Bear	Bucket-Dinos	Comfy Couch	Big & Small	Max & Ruby
	115	711	101	TVA	Les Gags	Star Académie:	Annie et ses hommes (N) (SC)		Dr. House (HDTV) (SC)		TVA 22 heures	(10:45) Denis Lévesque	
	126	730	102	RDI	24 Heures en 60 minutes		Grands reportages (SC)		Le Téléjournal (SC)		RDI en direct	Le National	Le Téléjournal
	526	507	249	VIVA	Judging Amy		Commander In Chief		Commander In Chief		Dollars-Sense	Lie Detective	Mediums
	300	601	301	M1	Stargate Atlantis		Sanctuary "Requiem"		U.S. of Tara	Secret Diary	The Line (N)		Atlantis
	305	612	306	PIX	*Citizen Ruth* ★★★ (1996, Comedy) Laura Dern.				*Ferris Bueller's Day Off* (1986, Comedy)			(10:45) *Danger Zone*	

critics' corner

The Line
Good and bad guys sit on the same moral fence in this new series. Max and Donny are police officers with different reactions to their job burnout. Max eschews by-the-book police work, while Donny struggles to retain his optimism. When they cross paths with a drug dealer, Max sees a chance to clean up the neighborhood. 10 PM on M1

House
House sets out to disprove the allegations of new patient Morgan, a nursing home worker who feigns illness after being visited by the facility's cat, which has a reputation for visiting people who are about to die. When Morgan falls ill, House must unravel what's behind the kitty's track record in the new episode "Here Kitty." 8 PM on GTV FOX

24
Last seen in the "24: Redemption" TV movie, malevolent genius Jonas Hodges emerges as Jack's latest adversary as the fight to avert more terror attacks continues in "9:00 PM-10:00 PM." 9 PM on GTV FOX

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Wednesday
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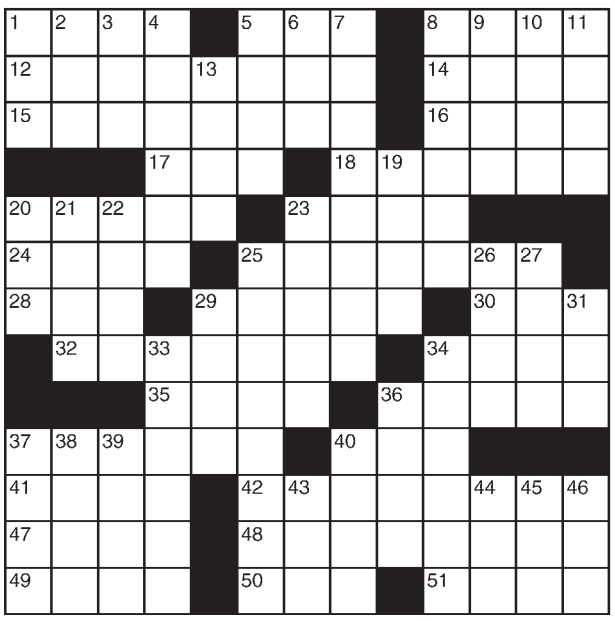

Crossword across

1 Impresses greatly
5 Youngster in a cave
8 White-glove discovery
12 Fish with a prehensile tail
14 Norway's capital
15 Lima bein'?
16 Paper quantity
17 Vat
18 Heavy hammer
20 Photo book
23 Fraud
24 Hen pen
25 G.B.S. devotee
28 Right angle
29 Island farewell
30 Shelter from the storm
32 Riga resident
34 Barrel
35 Denomination
36 Flavour
37 Current measure
40 Supporting
41 Laugh-a-minute
42 Flood-related
47 Misfortunes
48 As one
49 Lotion additive
50 Baby food
51 Roy's wife

Crossword down

1 Venomous viper
2 Teeny
3 Listener
4 "Quiet!"
5 Nursery feature
6 Can. neighbor
7 Famed social-realist painter
8 Sound of Music song
9 Secondhand
10 Refuse
11 Big book
13 Egg
19 Volcano's outflow
20 Expert
21 Hang out in the hammock
22 Gaucho's weapon
23 Young hog
25 Cut into slivers
26 "Sad to say ..."
27 Egg container
29 State with conviction
31 — out a living
33 Dangerous fly
34 Chiseled
36 Racetrack adviser
37 Met melody
38 Pepper dispenser
39 Horseback game
40 Buy, renovate and sell quickly
43 — pinch
44 Greek mountain
45 Every last bit
46 "Science Guy" Bill

Sudoku

For more/less challenging Sudoku puzzles, visit metronews.ca

HOW TO PLAY: Digits 1 through 9 will appear once in each zone — one zone is an outlined 3x3 grid within the larger puzzle grid. There are nine zones in the puzzle. Do not enter a digit into a box if it already appears elsewhere in the same zone, row across or column down the entire puzzle.

	4	8				1	9	
			3		1			
1	7			9			2	3
		5	4		3	6		
7								2
		3	7		6	9		
4	5			6			7	9
			9		4			
	3	2				8	6	

PREVIOUS DAY'S CROSSWORD AND SUDOKU ANSWERS:

J	O	B	■	M	A	L	E	■	R	S	V	P
A	I	L	■	A	D	A	M	■	H	O	E	R
B	L	U	E	J	A	Y	S	■	Y	U	R	I
■	■	E	W	O	K	■	■	S	T	R	A	M
F	I	B	E	R	■	E	T	C	H	■	■	■
O	D	O	R	■	S	C	R	A	M	B	L	E
N	E	O	■	S	O	L	O	N	■	L	E	E
T	A	K	E	A	W	A	Y	■	D	U	A	L
■	■	■	T	I	N	T	■	B	E	E	F	Y
A	F	O	U	L	■	■	G	L	E	N	■	■
L	A	I	D	■	B	L	U	E	M	O	O	N
F	I	N	E	■	L	O	R	E	■	T	A	B
A	R	K	S	■	Y	O	U	D	■	E	T	C

8	9	6	4	2	1	7	5	3
4	3	2	5	6	7	8	1	9
5	7	1	8	9	3	4	6	2
3	8	9	7	4	5	1	2	6
7	1	4	6	3	2	5	9	8
2	6	5	1	8	9	3	7	4
6	2	7	3	1	4	9	8	5
9	5	3	2	7	8	6	4	1
1	4	8	9	5	6	2	3	7

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SUDOKU SOLVE TIME:
Under 13 min .....Genius
13-17 min.....Scholar
17-21 min .....Smart
21-25 min .....Not bad
25+ min.....Keep practising

Metro Recipe of the Day

Grilled Jamaican Jerk Chicken

INGREDIENTS:
1 tbsp (15 ml) ground allspice
4 garlic cloves, minced
1 tbsp (15 ml) minced fresh ginger
1 large pickled jalapeno pepper, minced
¼ cup (50 ml) white wine vinegar
1½ tbsp (20 ml) light brown sugar
1½ tbsp (20 ml) olive oil
1¼ tsp (6 ml) black pepper
¾ tsp (4 ml) salt
4 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves
8 scallions
2 large red peppers, seeded and cut into 32 chunks
24 canned pineapple chunks (about 1½ cups/375 ml)

METHOD:
1. Combine allspice, garlic, ginger, jalapeno, vinegar, brown sugar, oil, black pepper and salt in large bowl. Measure out 2 tbsp (25 ml) of mixture and set aside. Add chicken to mixture remaining in bowl and turn to coat on all sides. Refrigerate 1 hour. (Don't leave chicken longer than 1 hour or ginger and vinegar will start to break down the fibre of chicken.)
2. Trim scallions, leaving just a small portion of tender green. Cut each scallion into 3 pieces.
3. Preheat broiler or grill to medium. On each of 8 long skewers, alternately thread 3 pieces of scallion, 4 pieces of pepper and 3 pieces of pineapple.
4. Lift chicken from marinade and place chicken on baking sheet or grill. Brush reserved 2 tbsp (25 ml) spice mixture over skewers and place on baking sheet or grill. Cook, turning chicken and skewers once, until chicken is cooked through and vegetables are crisp-tender, 5 to 10 minutes for skewers, 10 to 15 minutes for chicken.

SERVES 4

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Horoscopes

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Your charisma is a powerful attractor. Don't take any foolish chances. Shocking sounds will lead to benefits.

TAURUS
APRIL 21-MAY 21
Subtle testing baffles those close to you. A superficial remark reveals oppressive obligations. Disbelief about principles fires you up.

GEMINI
MAY 22-JUNE 21
A supervisor insists on rules being obeyed. Meet with a fiery playmate for a lucky break. Don't butt heads with a spoiled brat.

CANCER
JUNE 22-JULY 22
A romantic fling with a moody person is likely. Correct your reaction to somebody's oversensitivity. Frenzied activities will encourage you.

LEO
JULY 23-AUG 23
You'll find a mistake by accident. Be passionate, but carry on with the chores. Some people must always try harder to succeed.

VIRGO
AUG 24-SEPT 22
A nonchalant stranger wants to meet with you. A money predicament is followed by an unexpected profit. You'll adapt to change at a moment's notice.

LIBRA
SEPT 23-OCT 23
A cautious acquaintance assesses his life's progress. Attention-seekers need to get some work done. Help a friend realize the error of his ways.

SCORPIO
OCT 24-NOV 22
The strong support of friends is found to be essential. Interest and flattery come your way. Unprofitable associations will anger you.

SAGITTARIUS
NOV 23-DEC 21
A kind-hearted associate will act with firmness. Paranoid fantasies feed on unexpected adventures. Ponder on the sublime.

CAPRICORN
DEC 22-JAN 20
A tasteless maverick is eye-catching. Take delight in your trials and tribulations. Tell an idiot how obnoxious he is.

AQUARIUS
JAN 21-FEB 18
Answer all questions and banish doubts. Information you requested finally comes through. Come to grips with your next challenge.

PISCES
FEB 19-MARCH 20
An outsider forces you to bite your tongue. It's fruitless to deny your true feelings. Rage rises when insecurities are exposed.

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TICO

Amicable breakup for Aniston, Mayer

How nasty is the breakup between Jennifer Aniston and John Mayer? Not nasty at all, according to eonline.com. "They're definitely broken up, but it was completely amicable," a source said. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Lohan in compliance with court orders?

MISUNDERSTANDING Lindsay Lohan's attorney says an arrest warrant issued for the actress Friday and stemming from a 2007 DUI conviction was "born out of a misunderstanding," people.com reports.

"Since her case was resolved, Ms. Lohan has been in compliance with all the terms and conditions of her probation and all orders of the court," her lawyer Shawn Chapman Holley said in a statement Saturday, referring to Lohan's 2007 conviction for driving under the influence. "The warrant issued on Friday was, in our view, born out of a misunderstanding which I am confident I can clear up next week."

A hearing for Lohan is set for Monday morning in a Beverly Hills court. "The judge apparently has indicated that Ms. Lohan should be in attendance," said L.A. DA spokeswoman Sandi Gibbons. Lohan, 22, is currently serving a three-year probation term for the DUI incident, the actress's second.

"We are not actively looking for Ms. Lohan at this time," Beverly Hills Police Lt. Mark Rosen said at a Saturday press conference. "We are not anticipating her surrender this weekend. But if she comes in contact with police, she's subject to arrest. As for why we're not actively looking for her, that's not our procedure for this type of warrant. Her attorney is hoping to resolve this issue in the coming week. If it's not resolved, I'm sure we'll negotiate her voluntary surrender."

Lohan's latest legal woe followed a night of partying that included dinner with pals at the Chateau Marmont — and a bizarre late-night visit to the Hollywood home of actor Jack Nicholson, people.com alleges.

It says Lohan's Friday night started at the Chateau around 8 p.m. Around 1:45 a.m., Lohan showed up outside actor Nicholson's house on Mulholland Drive, where witnesses say the actress, accompanied by pals, buzzed the intercom numerous times and grew agitated, asking for "Jack" to open the gate.

The group was eventually let in, and Lohan remained inside until a bodyguard picked her up about 4:30 a.m., people.com adds. The website says Lohan's bodyguard then brought her to Samantha Ronson's house, where Ronson showed up at around 11:30 a.m. Later in the day, a loud disturbance was heard at the house, including the sound of a breaking window. Police cars arrived at the house shortly afterward, people.com says.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Lohan's father blames Ronson

RELATIONSHIPS Lindsay Lohan's father, Michael Lohan, tells Us Weekly he thinks Lindsay's relationship with Samantha Ronson is to blame for his daughter's problems. "I feel like when you're around the right people, you do the right thing, when you're around the wrong people, you do the wrong thing."

METRO WORLD NEWS

Allen's legal action against paparazzi

PEOPLE Lily Allen isn't going to let a few run-ins with the paparazzi take away that smile, eonline.com reports. Late last week, the British songbird made tabloid headlines by throwing a haymaker and water bottle at a photographer who allegedly rear-ended her car.

Now the singer, who has spoken out before about being shutterbugged, is taking a more appropriate action, the website adds. She filed — and was granted — an injunction against the offending photographers.

"My client has faced constant harassment over the last few months from the paparazzi. As a result of this and various incidents of harassment that took place … my client has now been forced to take legal action," Allen's lawyer, Mark Thomson, said in a statement.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Jackson set to release new music

CAREER Michael Jackson is set to thrill fans eagerly awaiting his comeback concerts by releasing new music before making his return to the stage, female-first.co.uk reports.

The Thriller star has announced plans to end his career hiatus with a series of live shows — dubbed This Is It — at London's O2 Arena in July.

At a press conference last week, the King Of Pop told the press he would be "performing songs the fans wanna hear" at his upcoming residency.

But the star may have to clear room on his concert setlist for new material — he is headed into the studio to record more music.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

No Rihanna, Brown duet
There is no duet by Rihanna and Chris Brown despite previous reports that the pair had recorded a song together, a label source tells people.com. "Contrary to published reports, (they) did not record a duet after the incident," says the source. METRO NEWS SERVICES

Celebrity Buzz

Radiohead fight back at Cyrus

DISPUTE When Radiohead refused to meet Miley Cyrus at the Grammy Awards last month, the starlet threatened to "ruin" them. Now, the In Rainbows band is fighting back, eonline.com reports.

Cyrus kicked off the feudin' during an appearance on the Johnjay & Ray radio show, and Radiohead responded by putting the teen in her place.

"When Miley grows up, she'll learn not to have such a sense of entitlement," the quintet said in a statement.

METRO NEWS SERVICE

Stern's attorney calls him a 'victim'

COURTS The Florida attorney who represented Howard K. Stern two years ago in the tug-of-war over the remains of Anna Nicole Smith says he's a victim, not a felon, people.com reports.

"The television, tabloid and Internet trial of Mr. Stern in the court of public opinion has been based on sensational lies, speculation, rumour and gossip," Krista Barth claims in a statement to Entertainment Tonight. "Unfortunately, it appears that criminal charges have now been brought by the state of California based on this same type of misinformation."

California Attorney General Jerry Brown told a news conference Friday that Stern was the "enabler" in a conspiracy to feed Smith's drug addiction. Stern, 40, and two doctors were charged Thursday with felonies for allegedly furnishing illegally obtained prescription drugs to Smith prior to her overdose death.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Simpson reaches out to abused women

PEOPLE Women who are in abusive relationships should "run so far away," Jessica Simpson advised at a concert in Phoenix on Thursday, usmagazine.com reports.

The 28-year-old singer — who has admitted she was in an abusive relationship — offered those words before belting out the ballad, Remember That.

"In love, we all go through a lot of things, and a lot of things unfortunately make us stay there (in the relationship)," she told the crowd at the Cricket Wireless Pavilion. "No matter what you go through in life, no matter what abuse you go through, take your heart and run so far away."

Although Simpson has never named names, she admitted last year that she had been in an abusive relationship. Asked by Elle if she had been physically abused, she said, "I don't want to talk about it, but I have definitely experienced abuse in a way that I would tell people to take their heart and run."

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Clarkson 'horrible' at relationships

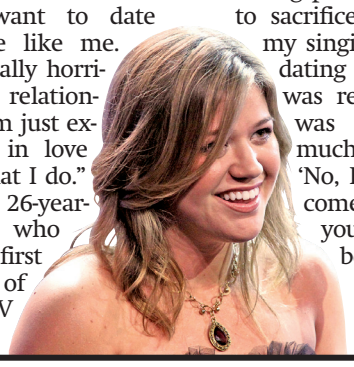
RELATIONSHIPS Kelly Clarkson is "horrible" at relationships, femalefirst.co.uk reports. The singer feels sorry for any potential lovers because she could never date someone who was obsessed with their career like she is.

She said: "I almost pity the person who would want to take me on — I would never want to date someone like me. I'm actually horrible at relationships! I'm just extremely in love with what I do."

The 26-year-old — who won the first series of the hit TV talent show American Idol — has revealed that her successful singing career has caused previous relationships to breakdown.

She explained: "I'm not dating anyone. I mean, I'm never not looking, but I find that whenever you try and look you end up with the wrong person. I am willing to sacrifice everything for my singing career. I was dating a guy, and he was really cool, but I was travelling so much I had to be like, 'No, I'm not going to come home just for you.' I actually love being single."

METRO NEWS SERVICES



Paltrow calls Phoenix a 'softie'

PEOPLE Gwyneth Paltrow thinks Joaquin Phoenix is a "real softie," femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The 36-year-old actress stars alongside the troubled actor — who has been acting increasingly erratic recently and is sporting a large unkempt beard — in upcoming film Two Lovers and insists he isn't as eccentric as people think.

She said: "He has trouble relaxing. He's a very intense guy. Sometimes you don't want to disturb him because he's sitting there and there's a lot going on, but he's a real softie.

"He's a lovely, sensitive, kind person. It was interesting to watch him work. We work completely differently, totally opposite."

In Two Lovers, Phoenix's character becomes obsessed with his neighbour, played by Paltrow, who is in turn besotted with a married man.

METRO NEWS SERVICES

Marc Anthony's father skills

COUPLE Jennifer Lopez has heaped praise on her husband Marc Anthony — because he's always willing to get up in the middle of the night to attend to their twins, femalefirst.co.uk reports.

The singer/actress insists she's found a perfect dad in the star — because he never grumbles about having to perform his share of baby burping and diaper duty. She says, "I can ask him to get up in the middle of the night if one of the kids wakes up."

METRO NEWS SERVICE

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